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Appeals Court Upholds Prison Term for State Worker

(AP) - A federal appeals court has upheld the prison sentence for a former Kansas case manager who defrauded federal and state government programs.

The U.S. District Court of Appeals on Tuesday rejected the request by Tya Dejuan Tiller to overturn her sentence of a year and a day in prison and restitution of about \$76,000. At sentencing, the judge found the Leavenworth woman had unfairly tarnished the image of other public servants.

Tiller pleaded guilty to fraudulently collecting disability benefits while working at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and later at the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Investigators also found she had used her state job to defraud the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by creating food stamp accounts in the names of others to buy items for herself.

Associated Press