



PRESS RELEASE

PETER J. LUCIDO
MACOMB COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Contact: Dawn Fraylick
Office: +1 (586) 469-5737
Email: Dawn.Fraylick@macombgov.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 9, 2023

Eastpointe mayor sentenced for fraudulently applying for grant as veteran-owned business

Mount Clemens, MI - Today, Monique Owens, Eastpointe Major, was sentenced for fraudulently applying for a grant under the "CARES ACT Small Business Fund" by falsely stating her business was 51% veteran owned and had between 100-249 employees.

In September 2023, Monique Owens pled no contest to Making a False Statement, a one year misdemeanor, and paid \$10,000 in restitution to Macomb County. The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office policy requires that every defendant pay restitution in advance of a plea to ensure that the victim is made financially whole. Monique Owens, like any other defendant, was held responsible for her actions and required to pay full restitution before her plea.

Today, she was sentenced by Macomb County Circuit Court Judge Jennifer Faunce. Judge Faunce sentenced Owens to six month non-reporting probation and 100 hours of community service at a non profit organization.

"The oath to uphold the law is sworn with the understanding that no one is above the law. As we honor Veterans Day, my office stands firm in its commitment to the people—to prosecute without hesitation and to hold accountable those who have betrayed the public trust, ensuring that benefits meant for veterans are not lost to fraud," said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido.

The Macomb County Prosecutor's office represents the people. We are committed to achieving justice and following the laws of the State of Michigan.

###