

COMPTROLLER'S INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Williamson County District Attorney General's Office Division of Victim Services

December 4, 2023

Jason E. Mumpower Comptroller of the Treasury



DIVISION OF INVESTIGATIONS



JASON E. MUMPOWER Comptroller

December 4, 2023

District Attorney General Stacey Edmonson 421 Main Street, Suite 103 Franklin, TN 37064

General Edmonson:

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury conducted an investigation of selected records of the Williamson County District Attorney General's Office Division of Victim Services, and the results are presented herein.

Copies of this report are being forwarded to Governor Bill Lee, the State Attorney General, the District Attorney General of the 21st Judicial District, certain state legislators, and various other interested parties. A copy of the report is available for public inspection in our Office and may be viewed at <u>http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/</u>.

Sincerely,

Jason E. Mumpower Comptroller of the Treasury

JEM/MLC



INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

WILLIAMSON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE DIVISION OF VICTIM SERVICES

The Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury investigated allegations of malfeasance related to the Williamson County District Attorney General's Office Division of Victim Services. The Comptroller's Office initiated the investigation after the Williamson County District Attorney General identified and reported questionable purchases from the Victims of Crime Assistance Program bank account by the Director of Victim Services. The investigation was limited to selected records for the period March 13, 2023, through August 8, 2023. The results of the investigation were communicated with the Office of the District Attorney General of the 21st Judicial District and the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference, who appointed a District Attorney General *Pro Tem* in this matter pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-7-106.

BACKGROUND



The Williamson County District Attorney General's Office Division of Victim Services is responsible for coordinating and paying for travel expenses for crime victims and witnesses in criminal prosecutions. Prosecution related expenses are paid from the Victims of Crime Assistance Program (VOCAP) bank account. The VOCAP bank account is funded through court costs assessed

on criminal defendants sentenced through Williamson County courts. Funds from the VOCAP bank account also pay for office furniture and supplies, meals for grand jurors, and the salary of one part-time victim services coordinator. The Director of the Division of Victim Services, Alicia Campbell, maintained control of one debit card issued on the VOCAP bank account and was responsible for paying expenses, and ensuring the VOCAP bank account was properly accounted for in the office. After meeting with investigators on August 30, 2023, Campbell subsequently resigned on August 31, 2023, and has paid restitution for the personal purchases.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

• DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF VICTIM SERVICES, ALICIA CAMPBELL, MISAPPROPRIATED VOCAP FUNDS TOTALING \$1,804.55

Between March 13, 2023, and August 8, 2023, Alicia Campbell, the Director of the Division of Victim Services, misappropriated VOCAP funds totaling \$1,804.55 by making 14 separate



Williamson County District Attorney General's Office Division of Victim Services

personal purchases at Sam's Club using the VOCAP bank account debit card. Campbell stated that she routinely used her personal Sam's Club account to make both personal purchases and purchases for the Division of Victim Services. Campbell claimed to have had two payment methods saved to her personal Sam's Club account. One payment method was a personal credit card, and the other payment method was the VOCAP bank account debit card. Campbell stated that she made a personal purchase at Sam's Club in March 2023 that was charged to her VOCAP account debit card because the VOCAP account debit card had been set as the default payment method for her Sam's Club account. Campbell stated that she was unaware that the VOCAP bank account debit card was set as the default payment method, and therefore did not know that her personal purchases were being charged to the VOCAP bank account.

On August 17, 2023, the newly appointed District Attorney General requested a meeting with Campbell to discuss victim services issues and internal controls over the VOCAP bank account. In preparation for the meeting, Campbell attempted to reconcile the VOCAP bank account, which she admittedly had not performed for the previous five months. According to Campbell, it was during this reconciliation that she discovered that her personal purchases at Sam's Club were charged to the VOCAP bank account. Investigators analyzed VOCAP account bank statements, receipts for purchases, and the VOCAP bank account general ledger and determined that Campbell made 14 separate personal purchases (**Refer to Exhibit 1**) at Sam's Club using VOCAP funds.

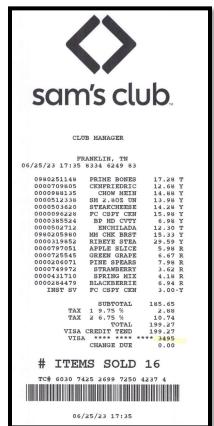


Exhibit 1

Example of in-store personal purchases at Sam's Club made by Campbell using the VOCAP bank account debit card



On December 1, 2023, Alicia Campbell entered a guilty plea by Criminal Information to the Class E felony offense of Fraudulent Use of a Debit Card over \$1,000 in the Williamson County Criminal Court. Campbell was granted judicial diversion relief pursuant to T.C.A. § 40-35-313, placed on probation for a period of 1 year, and ordered to pay restitution.

Williamson County District Attorney General's Office Division of Victim Services Investigative <u>Exhibit</u>