



## State of Tennessee

Justin P. Wilson, State Comptroller

For Immediate Release: March 23, 2011

### Former Mt. Pisgah PTA President Faces Theft Charge

A former president of the Mt. Pisgah Middle School Parent-Teacher Association faces a theft charge as a result of an investigation by the Comptroller's Division of Municipal Audit.

The audit, which was released today, notes that Kim Mason, a former co-president of the PTA, withdrew \$1,110 from the PTA's bank account and spent all but \$30 of that amount on personal expenses. Mason told auditors that she would make arrangements to repay \$1,080.

The findings of the audit were referred to the district attorney's office. This month, the Shelby County Grand Jury indicted Mason of one count of theft over \$1,000.

The audit also recommended that the PTA take several steps to shore up its bookkeeping practices, including requiring two signatures on all checks, paying all expenses by check rather than cash and avoiding the practice of pre-signing blank checks.

"It is unfortunate whenever someone in a position of trust does something to violate that trust," Comptroller Justin P. Wilson said. "That is particularly true with parent-teacher groups, where people are putting money because they want to help children. I commend our auditors for their work on this case as well as the prosecutors in the district attorney's office who have brought this matter to the attention of the courts."

To find the report online, go to:

<http://www.comptroller1.state.tn.us/Repository/MA/Investigative/mtpisgahmiddlepta.pdf>

-30-

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