



# DenverDA

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY IN THEFT FROM CHARITY**

A woman accused of taking more than \$200,000 from a charity she had started to help kids at Children's Hospital Colorado has pleaded guilty in the case today.

**Kirsten Hamling** (dob: 07-18-64) pleaded guilty to one count of theft (F3) encompassing all victims and their losses. In exchange for her guilty plea, the other charges against her have been dismissed. She is scheduled to appear in Denver District Courtroom 5A on November 16, 2012, at 8:30 a.m., to be sentenced. She will face a sentence of probation that could include up to two years in jail as well as more than \$250,000 in restitution.

Hamling created the non-profit group "Fired Up For Kids" in 2004 to raise money for the burn unit at Children's Hospital Colorado by selling calendars with pictures of firefighters. The charges alleged that beginning in 2005 she used money from the non-profit for her own personal use, including personal airline tickets, hair salon charges, car repairs and her children's private school tuition. The charges further allege that she filed false tax returns, failed to file tax returns, and provided false information to an investigator looking into the allegations. Hamling resigned from Fired Up For Kids in September 2011. The total amount of money alleged to have been taken is \$243,399.22.