



PRESS RELEASE

Caddo County Woman Pleads Guilty to Embezzling from Caddo Nation

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY—**LARISHA LARELL WABAUNASEE**, 38, of Anadarko, has pleaded guilty to embezzlement and theft from the Caddo Nation, announced U.S. Attorney Robert J. Troester.

According to public records, in September 2023, Wabaunasee was employed by the Caddo Nation and worked in part at the Caddo Nation Tag Office. From October 2023 through November 2024, Wabaunasee diverted customer payments into her personal bank accounts for her own use by creating and using an unsanctioned point-of-sale account. On November 4, 2025, a federal grand jury charged Wabaunasee with embezzlement and theft from an Indian tribal organization.

“The defendant betrayed the trust of the Caddo Nation and its citizens by diverting customer payments for her own personal gain,” said U.S. Attorney Robert J. Troester. “Our office remains committed to working alongside our tribal and federal partners to ensure that those who steal from tribal organizations are held accountable.”

“The Caddo Nation remains focused on healing, accountability and moving forward together as a community,” said Bobby Gonzalez, Chairman of the Caddo Nation. “While this matter involved the actions of a single individual, it also reflects the strength of the systems we have in place to protect the Nation and our people. We appreciate the cooperation and professionalism shown

throughout this process and remain committed to transparency, restoration, and the well-being for our community."

On February 2, 2026, Wabaunasee pleaded guilty and admitted she embezzled and stole from the Caddo Nation Tag Office by diverting customer transactions to her personal accounts. At sentencing, Wabaunasee faces up to five years in federal prison, payment of restitution, and a fine of up to \$250,000.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Assistant U.S. Attorney Tiffany Edgmon is prosecuting the case.

Reference is made to public filings for additional information.

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