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THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
MIDDLE DISTRICT *of* TENNESSEE

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**Department of Justice**

U.S. Attorney's Office

Middle District of Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, April 21, 2017

**Former Executive Director Of Birmingham Volunteer  
Lawyer Program Charged With Misapplication Of Federal  
Program Funds**

Kelli Hogue Mauro, 48, of Birmingham, Alabama, and former Executive Director of the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyer Program, has been charged with misapplication of property worth at least \$5,000 from a federal program, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Jack Smith of the Middle District of Tennessee.

The criminal information, filed on April 19, 2017, charged that between January 1, 2012 through August 31, 2012, Mauro misappropriated property owned by and under the control of the Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program, an organization that received benefits in excess of \$10,000 from grants made by the federal Legal Services Corporation through Legal Services Alabama.

The criminal information was filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama by the Office of the United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee. The Office of the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama was recused from the matter to avoid any appearance of impartiality.

This offense is punishable by not more than 10 years in prison, a fine of not more than \$250,000, a period of supervised release of not more than 3 years, and payment of restitution in an amount to be determined by the court.

A criminal information is merely an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

This case was investigated by the Office of Inspector General for the Legal Service Corporation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Byron M. Jones of the Middle District of Tennessee is prosecuting the case.

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USAO - Tennessee, Middle

**Topic:**

Financial Fraud

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