



# **NEWSRELEASE**

## **STORY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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**Paul H. Fitzgerald, Sheriff**

**Box 265, Nevada, IA 50201**

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### **For Immediate Release**

**Date: May 2, 2013**  
**Contact: Capt. Barry M. Thomas**  
**Phone: 515-382-7528**  
**Cell: 515-231-8548**

### **Subject Charged with Theft for Holding Fraudulent Benefit**

Earlier today, the Story County Sheriff's Office filed charges on Heidi Denio, (37 years old female from Iowa Falls) for Theft 1<sup>st</sup> (Class C Felony), Ongoing Criminal Conduct (Class B Felony), and Forgery (Aggravated Misdemeanor). The charges stem from a March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 benefit that was held in Zearing, IA for Denio when she had claimed to be suffering from terminal cancer. The benefit raised approximately \$50,995. The sheriff's office initiated an investigation into the validity behind Denio's claim that she had cancer after anonymous tips came in alerting authorities to the contrary. During the course of the yearlong investigation, it was revealed that Denio's claims to have cancer were false and that she had forged a doctor's signature on a letter trying to back up her false claims. The Ongoing Criminal Conduct charge stems from the fact that Denio has continued to receive funds from the public to support her fictitious medical condition.

Anyone with further information on this case is encouraged to call Sgt. Rodney Bunn at 515-382-7476.

Also, anyone wanting to anonymously report information may do so to Story County Crime Stoppers by calling 515-382-7577, by texting "STORYCOUNTY", followed by your information to 274637 (Crimes) or by going online to [www.storycountycs.com](http://www.storycountycs.com). Rewards up to \$1,000 may be given from Story County Crime Stoppers for information leading to an arrest.