

INDICTMENT

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF NICHOLAS

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Criminal Case No. 20-F- _____

CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN,

Defendant.

COUNT ONE

West Virginia Code: 61-3-24
**OBTAINING MONEY, PROPERTY OR SERVICES BY FALSE PRETENSE
(FELONY)**

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

that on or about the 23rd day of June 2016 through the 17th day of July 2016, in Nicholas County, West Virginia, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** committed the offense of “**OBTAINING MONEY, PROPERTY OR SERVICES BY FALSE PRETENSES**” by unlawfully, intentionally, knowingly, willfully and feloniously obtaining U. S. currency in a sum in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more from Federal Emergency Management Agency, the citizens of Richwood, and the Municipality of Richwood. This crime was committed with the intent to defraud the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the citizens of Richwood, and the Municipality of Richwood. To wit: On or about the 23rd day of June 2016, a flood decimated the City of Richwood necessitating massive clean-up in the ensuing weeks and months. In July 2016, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** took public office as the elected Recorder of the City of Richwood, and began being paid a salary as Recorder. At various points in early July, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN**, additionally received compensation from the City of Richwood purportedly for work as a member of a flood recovery team known as the Incident Command Team (ICT). The ICT was not formed or approved by the Richwood City Council until on or about July 18, 2016. During the time period from June 23, 2016 to July 17, 2016, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** obtained by false pretenses in a sum in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the detriment of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the citizens of Richwood, and the Municipality of Richwood. This crime was committed in Nicholas County against the peace and dignity of the State of West Virginia.

COUNT TWO

THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:

that on or about the ____ day of November 2016 through the ____ day of January 2017, in Nicholas County, West Virginia, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** committed the offense of “**OBTAINING MONEY, PROPERTY OR SERVICES BY FALSE PRETENSES**” by unlawfully, intentionally, knowingly, willfully and feloniously obtaining U. S. currency in a sum in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more from Federal Emergency Management Agency, the citizens of Richwood, and the Municipality of Richwood. This crime was committed with the intent to defraud the Federal Emergency Management

Agency, the citizens of Richwood, and the Municipality of Richwood. To wit: On or about the 23rd day of June 2016, a flood decimated the City of Richwood necessitating massive clean-up in the ensuing weeks and months. In July 2016, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** took public office as the elected Recorder of the City of Richwood, and began being paid a salary as Recorder. At various points in early July, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN**, additionally received compensation from the City of Richwood purportedly for work as a member of a flood recovery team known as the Incident Command Team (ICT). The ICT terminated on or about November 2, 2016. During the time period from November 2016 to January 2017, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN**, obtained by false pretenses in a sum in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to the detriment of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the citizens of Richwood, and the Municipality of Richwood. This crime was committed in Nicholas County against the peace and dignity of the State of West Virginia.

COUNT THREE

**West Virginia Code: 61-3-24d
FRAUDULENT SCHEMES
(FELONY)**

THE GRAND JURY FURTHER CHARGES:

that between the ____ day of June, 2016 through the __ day of December, 2016, in Nicholas County, West Virginia, **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** acting in concert with the Incident Command Team in Richwood, West Virginia, committed the offense of “**FRAUDULENT SCHEMES**” by unlawfully, intentionally, knowingly, willfully, feloniously and with the intent to defraud, depriving another of money, goods, property or serviced by means of fraudulent pretenses. **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** acting with the members of the Incident Command Team to deprive the City of Richwood of money that was intended to help the City of Richwood recover from the flood on the 23 June 2016. **CHRISTINA M. DRENNEN** and the Incident Command Team’s excessive payments to themselves and their family members inhibited the City of Richwood from recovering from the flood to the benefit of herself and others. The amount in controversy for the fraudulent scheme in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), against the peace and dignity of the State of West Virginia.

Found upon the sworn testimony of **LT. BRAD MANKINS** a member of the West Virginia State Police Department, Raleigh County, West Virginia.

A TRUE BILL DATED: June 16, 2020

FOREPERSON

Prosecuting Attorney
Nicholas County, West Virginia