



Department of Veterans Affairs  
**Office of Inspector General**

## **News Release**

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### **Investigation Leads to 50-Year Sentence** *Veteran Murdered by Wife for Monetary Benefits*

Washington – Martha Ann Kaczmarczyk, previously known as Martha Ann McClancy, received the maximum sentence, 50 years incarceration, for the 2006 murder of her then husband Robert McClancy on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Robert McClancy was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who served in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart medal for injuries he sustained in combat.

"Ms. Kaczmarczyk conspired with another to steal VA beneficiary funds and murdered Mr. Robert McClancy, a decorated combat veteran," said Michael Missal, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Inspector General (VA OIG). "This successful prosecution is a testament to the dedication of the state and federal investigative team that pursued the truth. We will aggressively investigate and seek prosecution for those who defraud VA programs and harm our nation's heroes."

Ms. Kaczmarczyk was convicted in November 2015 after a jury trial of attempted first degree murder and conspiracy to commit first degree murder in the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Tenn. While married to Robert McClancy, she conspired with Charles Kaczmarczyk to murder Robert McClancy and inherit Mr. McClancy's estate and fraudulently receive over \$130,000 in monetary benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Social Security Administration (SSA), resulting from Mr. McClancy's death.

"This complex, multi-agency effort evolved from a government fraud case into a murder conspiracy investigation," said Gale Stallworth Stone, Acting Inspector General for the Social Security Administration. "This case shows how our investigators regularly go above and beyond the call of duty. I commend our partner agencies for working together to see these individuals prosecuted for their truly egregious acts."

Local police charged Charles Kaczmarczyk with tampering with evidence in Mr. McClancy's death; however, there was not enough evidence to successfully prosecute him. Ms. McClancy married Charles Kaczmarczyk in Las Vegas, Nev., less than 5 months after her husband's death.

“This was an incredibly complicated case, and it serves as a perfect example of the value of working together with our law enforcement partners,” said Mark Gwyn, Director, Tenn. Bureau of Investigation. “The full cooperation of each of these agencies working in tandem was critical in developing all the aspects that were necessary in investigating, solving, and obtaining justice in this case.”

In 2010, following an investigation conducted by the VA OIG, SSA OIG, and FBI, Martha Ann and Charles Kaczmarczyk were both convicted in U.S. District Court and imprisoned for multiple federal crimes related to their fraudulent scheme to defraud VA and SSA of over \$450,000 in disability benefits.

During the course of the fraud investigation, agents discovered additional information that led to a new joint investigation by the VA OIG, SSA OIG, FBI, Tenn. Bureau of Investigation, and District Attorney General’s Office, Tenn. 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District to reopen the multi-year cold-case into Mr. McClancy’s death. The new investigation resulted in Ms. Kaczmarczyk’s November 2015 conviction and subsequent 50-year prison sentence.

“The results in both the guilt and sentencing phases of this trial would never have been possible without the great team work exhibited by local, state and federal law enforcement agencies,” said Stephen D. Crump, District Attorney General, Tenn. 10th Judicial District. “This was complicated litigation that could have been lost, and justice not achieved, but for the dedication of the participants. We spoke for those who could not speak. And we spoke in one voice.”

The VA OIG conducts oversight of VA and its programs, providing independent and objective reporting to the Secretary of the VA and the Congress for the purpose of deterring crime and bringing about positive change in the integrity, efficiency, and effectiveness of the VA. To report potential criminal activity, fraud, waste, mismanagement, or other abuse, contact the VA OIG hotline at [vaohotline@va.gov](mailto:vaohotline@va.gov) or [www.va.gov/oig/hotline/default.asp](http://www.va.gov/oig/hotline/default.asp).

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