



Upshaw seeks to withdraw attorney of record, indigent status

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RUSK – Gina Upshaw, charged last summer in connection with theft from the Cherokee County Tax Office in an amount greater than \$300,000, has filed a motion to withdraw her attorney of record.

According to court documents, Upshaw, 63, of Rusk, initially entered the motion May 17. She and her counselor, Frank Dobrovolny of Jacksonville, appeared before Second District Court Judge Chris Day at a June 3 pre-trial hearing to formally present the petition. Upshaw seeks indigent status, which makes her eligible for court-appointed counsel.

After a 10-minute consultation at the bench with Dobrovolny and District Attorney Elmer Beckworth, Judge Day ordered a 3 p.m. hearing Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

Dobrovolny has represented Upshaw since June 2023 and remains her attorney at this time.

The missing funds came to light after an annual county audit prepared by a Waco-based firm uncovered \$431,375.99 taken from the Cherokee County Tax Office, allegedly between 2015-2021. Findings were turned over Jan. 12, 2022, to the District Attorney's Office, which brought in the Texas Rangers for investigation. Ultimately charges were filed against Upshaw, who was terminated from county employment.