February 10, 2009
For Immediate Release

FORMER PENSION BENEFIT MANAGER INDICTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

St. Louis, MO: Harry Keil was indicted on federal charges of embezzling money from the Machinist Union, District 9, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway announced today.

According to the indictment, Keil was hired in August 2006 by the Trustees of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers District 9 as the Administrative Manager of the Pension and Health and Welfare Funds. The Plans’ offices are located on St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO. The indictment alleges that between May 2007 and February 2008, Keil caused a series of payments to be made from the Pension Plan and the Health and Welfare Plan based on false invoices which he created. In some instances, he supported the illegal payments with invoices which bore the names of entities which did legitimate business with the Plans and, as result the false invoices appeared to be valid. Some of the payments were made to his personal bank accounts and loans. The indictment alleges that Keil stole $46,637 and $8,065 in transactions occurring while he worked for the Union Funds.

Harry Keil, 50, St. Charles, MO, was indicted by a federal grand jury on two felony counts of embezzlement from an employee benefit plan. The indictment was returned January 29. Keil was arrested last week in Rockford, Illinois and appeared in federal court in St. Louis earlier today.

If convicted, each count carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and/or fines up to $250,000.

Hanaway commended the work on the case by the Department of Labor, Office of Racketeering and Fraud Investigations and the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.