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**NEWS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Commonwealth v. Brian Scott Hall**  
**Three Felony Convictions for Personal Use of Public Funds by Former Economic Development Office Employee**

Colin D. Stolle, Commonwealth's Attorney for the city of Virginia Beach, announced that Brian Scott Hall, age 57, was found guilty and sentenced today by Circuit Court Judge Steven C. Frucci for three (3) counts of felony Embezzlement. Judge Frucci sentenced Hall to three (3) years in prison, all suspended, conditioned upon three (3) years of good behavior. The Virginia State Sentencing Guidelines recommended a sentence of probation with no active period of incarceration.

Hall pled not guilty to the charges but stipulated that the Commonwealth's evidence was sufficient to find him guilty. Hall's attorney then asked the Court to find him guilty of three misdemeanor embezzlement offenses instead. The Commonwealth objected to this reduction, and the Court declined to reduce the charges.

Had this matter gone to trial, the Commonwealth's evidence would have proven that in August 2018, the Virginia Beach City Auditor's Office contacted the Virginia Beach Police Department regarding possible embezzlement activity within the Virginia Beach Economic Development Office. An audit of the shipping expenditures for the Office revealed that the shipping budget was 180% over budget. The City Auditor's Office conducted an investigation and determined that between September 2016 and June 2018, Brian Scott Hall utilized the FedEx expense account for the Economic Development Office to mail 23 private packages to his girlfriend in the Philippines. The total amount of shipping costs totaled \$4,102.99. The shipping of these packages was personal in nature and not at all related to Hall's job duties or Economic Development Office business.

Hall's position in the Economic Development Office was Business Development Coordinator. In this role, he possessed a Virginia Beach Procurement Card ("Pro-Card"), which is a credit/debit