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PARTIAL 2:24-cr-00155-JAD-DJA • September 25, 2024

case that you're about to hear is about a public official, a city councilwoman, who took advantage of those officers' memories for her personal gain.

You're going to hear that the defendant, Michele Fiore, started a fake charity and raised tens of thousands of dollars supposedly for the purpose of building a memorial to Officer Alyn Beck. But you're going to hear over the course of this trial that that was a lie. And what's more, the defendant knew that it was a lie.

You're going to hear that none of the money that she raised, not one cent, was spent for a memorial to

Officer Beck. And during the course of this trial, we're going to follow the money and show you how she spent it: On herself and on her family, paying her rent, her political fundraising bills, for plastic surgery, and for her daughter's wedding.

Now, as a result of her actions, the grand jury has charged the defendant with the crime called wire fraud, and the judge has just explained to you what the elements of wire fraud are. And at the end of this trial, she's going to give you -- she's going to reinstruct you on what the elements of wire fraud are. But basically what it means is the defendant told lies in order to obtain money or property and that to do so it involved the use of something called an interstate wire which can be something like the deposit of a check at a bank.