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FINAL NEWS/SPORTS 50 CENTS

# 70 months for Tony Erpenbeck

**By James McNair**  
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The Erpenbeck Co. collapsed in 2002. The Erpenbeck family crumbled Thursday.

Three months after Bill Erpenbeck was sent to prison for 30 years, his father and sister were given shorter sentences Thursday in connection with the bank fraud that forced what was one of the Tri-state's biggest home builders into insolvency.

## Daughter, employee get reduced sentences

Tony Erpenbeck received a 70-month prison sentence for conspiring to obstruct justice.

Lori Erpenbeck, who endured years of torment from her father and oldest brother – before implicating them of federal crimes – will follow them behind bars for 366 days.

U.S. Senior District Judge

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- Key players.
- What happened when.


S. Arthur Spiegel grappled with a host of federal sentencing guidelines and mitigating circumstances in giving three defendants in the Erpenbeck bank fraud case a total of almost 10 years in prison.

The sentencings packed Spiegel's courtroom and elicited streams of tears from the two female defendants. Both said they couldn't muster the strength to refuse Bill Erpenbeck's orders to carry on with a three-year check-kiting scheme.

"I know a lot of people have been hurt, and I feel very upset about it," Lori Erpenbeck said. "I didn't know at the time that my brother Bill was making the scheme. ... If I could have stopped it, I would."

The scheme crashed in April 2002 when the Erpenbeck Co. was forced to go out of business.

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**Lori Erpenbeck**, Thursday at the courthouse, received 366 days in prison.

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