



PRESS RELEASE
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SIX SENTENCED FOR FEMA FRAUD

Orlando, Florida - On May 24, 2006, twenty-six individuals were charged in Operation "Storm Chaser" that was aimed at detecting and prosecuting instances of fraud in Central Florida related to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. U.S. District Judge John Antoon, II today sentenced six of those twenty-six individuals. Three individuals were sentenced to prison terms. Three individuals were sentenced to probation. All six individuals were ordered to re-pay the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the amounts that they stole.

The following chart summarizes the sentences that were imposed today:

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Sentence</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
RONNIE LEE MCNEIL, 42, Apopka, Florida	50 months imprisonment 3 years supervised release \$124,066 in restitution \$700 in special assessments	Pled guilty on June 29, 2006 to one count of conspiracy and five counts of theft of government property in Case No. 6:06-cr-77- Orl-28DAB Pled guilty on June 30, 2006 to one count of conspiracy in Case No. 6:06-cr-78-Orl-28JGG

FREDRICK DEON HARRELL, 27, Orlando, Florida	10 months imprisonment 2 years supervised release \$6,000 in restitution \$300 in special assessments	Pled guilty on July 28, 2006 to three counts of theft of government property
WILLIAM LEWIS CLARK, 43, Orlando, Florida	8 months imprisonment 3 years supervised release \$10,000 in restitution \$500 in special assessments	Pled guilty on June 29, 2006 to five counts of theft of government property
CLARENCE MALCOLM WILLIAMS, 41, Mount Dora, Florida	5 years probation 120 days home confinement \$14,500 in restitution \$200 in special assessments	Pled guilty on July 18, 2006 to two counts of theft of government property
FELICIA LAFAYE HARRELL, 24, Apopka, Florida	3 years probation \$2,000 in restitution \$100 special assessment	Pled guilty on July 18, 2006 to one count of theft of government property
KAREN RACHEL SMITH, 31, Mount Dora, Florida	1 year probation \$2,000 in restitution \$100 special assessment	Pled guilty on July 18, 2006 to one count of theft of government property

These case were investigated by the United States Secret Service, the United States Postal Inspection Service, and the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General, with assistance from the U.S. Marshal's Service. The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Roger B. Handberg.

These cases are part of the effort by the Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force to prosecute disaster-related crimes from last year's hurricanes. The Task Force was created in September 2005 by Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales to deter, investigate, and prosecute federal crimes arising from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force – chaired by Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division, includes members of the Secret Service, the Postal Inspector's Office, and the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, among others.

