

FILED

2009 JUL -1 PM 12:21

CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
TOLEDO

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

V.

**REGINALD MCFARLAND,
ROGER MCFARLAND,
FRANCES HUNTLEY,
TINA FRIESON,
JEROME KING, JR.,
LOIS LIPKINS,
LORI J. BIBBS,
HENRIETTA MACK,
SIRENA L. CAMPBELL,
JAMICA D.G. CHENAULT,
KENYATTA D. KING,**

Defendants.

INDICTMENT

Cr. No. **3:09 CR 313**

**Title 18, United States Code,
Section 371.**

JUDGE ZOUHARY

COUNT 1

(Conspiracy To Steal Government Property)

The Grand Jury charges:

ORIGINAL

General Allegations

At all times relevant to this indictment:

1. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, Louisiana, and the surrounding area. On September 24, 2005, Hurricane Rita struck areas in Louisiana and Texas.
2. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (hereinafter "FEMA") was a government agency providing aid to the victims of disasters.
3. FEMA provided aid to victims of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, including payments for immediate emergency assistance, rental assistance, and lost or damaged property replacement assistance.
4. To expedite providing financial assistance to victims of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, FEMA set up toll-free hotline telephone systems. Victims could call the toll-free hotline, provide certain personal information, including their address in the affected areas, and receive financial assistance in one or more of the categories identified above.
5. Defendant REGINALD MCFARLAND was the son of defendant ROGER MCFARLAND and resided with defendant ROGER MCFARLAND in Toledo, Ohio.
6. Defendant ROGER MCFARLAND was the father of defendant REGINALD MCFARLAND and had a personal relationship with defendant FRANCES HUNTLEY.
7. Defendant TINA FRIESON was the girlfriend of defendant REGINALD MCFARLAND.
8. Defendant JEROME KING, JR. was the nephew of defendant ROGER MCFARLAND and the son of defendant LOIS LIPKINS.
9. Defendant LOIS LIPKINS was the sister of defendant ROGER MCFARLAND.

The Conspiracy

10. Beginning on approximately September 10, 2005 and continuing to approximately January 31, 2006, in the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division, and elsewhere, defendants REGINALD MCFARLAND, ROGER MCFARLAND, FRANCES HUNTLEY, TINA FRIESON, JEROME KING, JR., LOIS LIPKINS, LORI J. BIBBS, HENRIETTA MACK, SIRENA CAMPBELL, JAMICA D.G. CHENAULT, and KENYATTA D. KING, together with conspirators known and unknown to the grand jury, knowingly combined, conspired, confederated and agreed together and with each other to steal, purloin, or knowingly convert to their own use or the use of another, money of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, an agency of the United States, and to receive, conceal, or retain said money with intent to convert it to their own use, knowing it to have been stolen, purloined, or converted, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

Manner and Means of the Conspiracy

11. It was part of the conspiracy that certain of the coconspirators called FEMA's toll-free hotline, provided false information, sometimes including false names and false social security numbers, including at least ten separate times the street address and/or residential telephone number of defendants REGINALD MCFARLAND and ROGER MCFARLAND, and always including a false address in the affected areas, and thereby caused FEMA to issue financial assistance checks to which the applicants were not entitled.

12. It was further part of the conspiracy that defendant REGINALD MCFARLAND and coconspirators acting on behalf of defendant REGINALD MCFARLAND, including unindicted coconspirators, paid other coconspirators, including defendants FRANCES

HUNTLEY, TINA FRIESON, JEROME KING, JR., LOIS LIPKINS, LORI BIBBS, HENRIETTA MACK, SIRENA L. CAMPBELL, JAMICA D.G. CHENAULT, and KENYATTA D. KING between \$300 and \$500 per check to use bank accounts they owned or controlled, or to use convenience stores or check cashing businesses, to negotiate the fraudulently obtained FEMA checks and to remit, directly or indirectly through other coconspirators, the proceeds of the checks to defendant REGINALD MCFARLAND.

13. It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants took steps to conceal the existence, purpose and acts done in furtherance of the conspiracy.

Overt Acts In Furtherance of the Conspiracy

In furtherance of the conspiracy and to effectuate the object thereof:

14. Certain of the coconspirators, all of whom were located in Toledo, Ohio, called the FEMA emergency assistance hotline and applied for FEMA funds using false information, thereby causing FEMA to issue at least 26 emergency assistance checks totaling approximately \$90,000, each such application for FEMA funds being a separate overt act.

15. Certain of the coconspirators negotiated the FEMA checks using bank accounts they owned or controlled in Toledo, Ohio, or using convenience stores or check cashing businesses in Toledo, Ohio, the negotiation of each FEMA check being a separate overt act, including:

(a) Defendant ROGER MCFARLAND used bank accounts he owned or controlled to negotiate two FEMA Hurricane Katrina checks payable to two different individuals and used a convenience store to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane Rita check payable to a different

individual, said three checks totaling \$6,000 and being negotiated on or about 09/22/05, 09/30/05, and 10/25/05.

(b) Defendant FRANCES HUNTLEY used bank accounts she owned or controlled to negotiate four FEMA Hurricane Katrina emergency assistance checks payable to four different individuals and to negotiate nine FEMA Hurricane Rita emergency assistance checks payable to nine different individuals, said 13 checks totaling \$27,074 and being negotiated from on or about 09/26/05 to 01/26/06.

(c) Defendant TINA FRIESON used bank accounts she owned or controlled, including a bank account in the name of her daughter, to negotiate two FEMA Hurricane Katrina checks in the name of two different individuals, and used a convenience store to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane Katrina check in the name of a different individual, said three checks totaling \$6,358 and being negotiated on or about 09/22/05, 12/19/05, and 12/30/05.

(d) Defendant JEROME KING, JR. used a bank account he owned or controlled to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane Katrina check (payable to Delores Brown for \$2,358, negotiated on or about 10/06/05).

(e) Defendant LOIS LIPKINS used a bank account she owned or controlled to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane Katrina check (payable to James Moore for \$2,358, negotiated on or about 10/04/05).

(f) Defendant LORI J. BIBBS used a bank account she owned or controlled to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane Rita check (payable to Wanda Davis for \$2,000, negotiated on or about 10/14/05).

(g) Defendant HENRIETTA MACK used a bank account she owned or controlled to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane Katrina check (payable to Louis Brown for \$2,358, negotiated on or about 10/25/05).

(h) Defendant SIRENA L. CAMPBELL used a bank account she owned or controlled to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane RITA check (payable to Donald Green for \$2,000, negotiated on or about 10/01/05).

(i) Defendant JAMICA D.G. CHENAULT used a bank account she owned or controlled to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane RITA check (payable to Cathy Smith for \$2,000, negotiated on or about 11/14/05).

(j) Defendant KENYATTA D. KING used a bank account she owned or controlled to negotiate one FEMA Hurricane RITA check (payable to Lamya Anderson for \$2,000, negotiated on or about 11/07/05).

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

A True Bill.

Original document -- Signatures on file with the Clerk of Courts, pursuant to the E-Government Act of 2002.