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Virginia National Guard Member Pleads Guilty to Bank Fraud and Identity Theft

(Alexandria, VA) - Jerry A. Crockett, age 28, of Triangle, Virginia, pled guilty yesterday to bank fraud and aggravated identity theft in violation of federal law. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, made the announcement. The bank fraud charge carries a maximum term of 30 years in prison, and the aggravated identity theft charge carries a mandatory term of two years in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for May 11, 2007, before United States District Judge T.S. Ellis, III.

According to court documents, Crockett had been enlisted in the Virginia Army National Guard and had access to the personal information, including names and social security numbers, of other Guard members. Crockett used this information, and similar information he obtained from other sources, to open approximately 200 bank accounts with either stolen identities or counterfeit names over a year and half period. Crockett wrote numerous fraudulent checks from these accounts, ultimately obtaining more than \$120,000 in funds to which he was not entitled.

The case was investigated by the United States Secret Service. The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Edmund P. Power.

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