U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney Eastern District of Arkansas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 8, 2008 CONTACT: Jane W. Duke United States Attorney 501-340-2600

JACKSONVILLE MAN INDICTED FOR IMPERSONATING AN OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

<u>Little Rock</u> - U. S. Attorney Jane W. Duke and J.R. Howard, United States Marshal, announced that Jonathan Lee Horton, age 33, of Jacksonville, Arkansas, was indicted today by a federal grand jury in the Eastern District of Arkansas for impersonating an officer or employee of the United States Marshals Service (USMS), a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 912.

According to the Indictment, Horton impersonated an officer or employee of the USMS during March and April of 2008. At the time of the offense, Horton was attempting to locate a state court fugitive who had jumped bail posted by a local bail bond company.

Horton was arrested on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, and United States Magistrate Judge J. Thomas Ray ordered him detained pending trial.

"We take instances such as this very seriously. The irresponsible actions of a police impersonator are not only detrimental to the public's trust and confidence in law enforcement, but increase the difficulty of a police officer's already difficult job," stated Howard.

If convicted, Horton could be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than three (3) years, a fine of not more than \$250,000, or both.

This investigation was conducted by the United States Marshals Service. Assistant United States Attorney Robert G. Govar will prosecute this case for the United States.

An Indictment contains only allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.