



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias  
Northern District of Georgia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>

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## **FORMER CONYERS PUBLIC HOUSING OFFICIALS INDICTED**

### *Defendants Allegedly Used Money For Waterslide, Gifts, Vacations*

Atlanta, GA - KRISTI KIRKUS WILSON, 44, and RONNIE PAUL WILSON, 43, of Conyers, Georgia, have been indicted by a federal grand jury for embezzling more than \$130,000 from the Conyers Public Housing Authority. Their initial court appearance has not yet been scheduled.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of today's indictment, "The public must be able to trust that its government employees at all levels will be good stewards and spend their tax dollars wisely. This scheme clearly demonstrates how such trust can be abused. We must be ever vigilant in guarding against such abuses, especially in these tough times where demand for public housing is at a premium. Every taxpayer dollar is precious and must be treated accordingly."

Kenneth M. Donohue, Inspector General for the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General said, "HUD's Office of Inspector General is committed to ensuring taxpayers' dollars are put to good use and HUD programs are free from waste, fraud and abuse. This joint effort by the U.S. Attorney's Office and HUD's Office of Inspector General has helped send a strong message that those who seek to unlawfully profit by defrauding programs within HUD will be vigorously prosecuted."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias, the charges and other information presented in court: Between 2000 and 2007, KRISTI KIRKUS WILSON, who was the Executive Director, and RONNIE PAUL WILSON, who was the Lease Enforcement Officer for the Conyers, Georgia Public Housing Authority, allegedly embezzled more than \$130,000 of housing authority funds that came through grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The WILSONs allegedly misused Conyers Housing Authority credit cards for vacation expenses, local meals, and personal items for their homes, including a barn, perimeter fencing, outdoor Christmas decorations, a waterslide, and Christmas gifts and parties for Housing Authority employees. KRISTI KIRKUS WILSON also approved and paid bonuses for herself, and padded her and her

husband's salaries.

KRISTI KIRKUS WILSON and RONNIE PAUL WILSON are charged with conspiracy, embezzlement of federal program funds, and honest services mail fraud. The indictment includes a forfeiture count in which the United States seeks the forfeiture of ill-gotten proceeds from the alleged criminal scheme.

Members of the public are reminded that the indictment contains only allegations. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it will be the government's burden to prove a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

This case is being investigated by Special Agents of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-Office of Inspector General (HUD-OIG).

Assistant United States Attorney David Leta is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is [www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan).