



Department of Justice

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McKINNEY SENTENCED FOR STEALING CO-WORKERS' IDENTITIES, FILING FALSE UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

ATLANTA, GA - JEFFERY MCKINNEY, 42, of Fairburn, Georgia, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Marvin Shoob to serve 1 year, 6 months in federal prison on charges of mail fraud related to MCKINNEY'S scheme to fraudulently receive unemployment benefits from the Georgia Department of Labor.

United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said, "We have seen inventive ways to take money from the federal government, but stealing your co-workers identities and getting unemployment checks while both you and the co-workers are all still working is a scam at a new level. This defendant took money out of the hands of jobless people who desperately need benefits to feed their families, and now he is not only out of a job, he is in a prison."

MCKINNEY was sentenced to 1 year, 6 months in prison, and 40 hours of community service to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and ordered to pay \$49,290 in restitution to the Georgia Department of Labor. MCKINNEY pleaded guilty to the charges on April 12, 2010.

According to United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court, MCKINNEY, while working as a yard and safety supervisor at an automotive group, fraudulently used the identities of his co-workers. He submitted claims for unemployment benefits in the names of those co-workers and kept the payments for himself. MCKINNEY also submitted unemployment benefit requests in his own name, claiming he was not working, when in fact he was fully employed. MCKINNEY stole over \$49,000 from the Georgia Department of Labor.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the United States Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General.

Assistant United States Attorney Christopher Bly prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact Sally Q. Yates, 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.justice.gov/usao/gan.