

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

INDICTMENT FOR THEFT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CRIMINAL DOCKET NO.

v.

SECTION:

RONALD STIMAGE

VIOLATION: 18 U.S.C. § 641

* *

The Grand Jury charges that:

COUNT 1

A. AT ALL TIMES MATERIAL HEREIN:

- 1. Defendant, **RONALD STIMAGE** (hereinafter "**STIMAGE**"), owned and resided in a house located at 7741 Sandpiper Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70128 in the Eastern District of Louisiana.
- 2. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck Louisiana and impacted the Orleans Parish area.
- 3. The United States Small Business Administration ("SBA") was an agency of the United States of America that provided disaster assistance loans to Hurricane Katrina victims. The SBA was administered and funded by the United States of America.

- 4. According to the SBA loan contracts, before an applicant receives any SBA loan funds, he must participate in a loan closing, where the terms of the loan are determined. After the loan closing, SBA disbursed an initial \$10,000.00 on the loan. Further disbursements required the defendant to submit documents to the SBA, at 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX for approval. Additionally, the SBA loan contract required the borrower to assign any future insurance proceeds to the SBA. Prior to disbursement of any loan funds in excess of \$10,000.00, the borrower must submit copies of receipts or invoices of repairs made to the property in accordance with the loan closing documents. In the case of real estate construction or repair, the additional documentation includes evidence, such as receipts, that funds necessary to complete the construction or repair project have been spent for the repair or replacement of the disaster-damaged real estate.
- 5. As a result of damage to STIMAGE'S home by Hurricane Katrina, STIMAGE applied to the SBA for a low interest disaster loan. STIMAGE applied for the loan on or about April 18, 2006. The loan was approved for \$141,800.00 by the SBA on or about May 4, 2006.
- 6. On or about September 6, 2006, **STIMAGE** submitted a false receipt to the SBA indicating that he spent \$11,716.00 on repairs to Sandpiper Drive.
- 7. On or about September 6, 2006, **STIMAGE** submitted a false receipt to the SBA indicating that he spent \$51,688.00 on repairs to 7741 Sandpiper Drive.
- 8. As a result of his misrepresentations, between on or about June 15, 2006, and September 9, 2006, the defendant, **STIMAGE**, received a loan disbursement totaling \$31,800.00 in federal funds from the SBA.

B. THEFT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS:

From on or about June 15, 2006, to on or about September 9, 2006, in the Eastern District of Louisiana, the defendant, **STIMAGE**, did willfully and knowingly steal, purloin, and convert to

his own use, money and funds of the United States Small Business Administration, a department and agency of the United States, in the amount exceeding \$1,000.00 by submitting false and fraudulent documents to the SBA; all in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

- 1. The allegations of Count 1 of this Indictment are re-alleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth fully herein for the purpose of alleging forfeiture to the United States of America pursuant to the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 641 and 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461.
- 2. As a result of the offense alleged in Count 1 the defendant, STIMAGE, shall forfeit to the United States pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461, any and all property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.
- 3. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:
 - a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
 - b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third person;
 - has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
 - d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
 - e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be subdivided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of said defendant up to the value of the above forfeitable

property. All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 641 and 981(a)(1)(C), made applicable through Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461.

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New Orleans, Louisiana July 29, 2011