



# Department of Justice

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**FERRIDAY WOMAN GETS FEDERAL PRISON TIME FOR  
DEFRAUDING VETERAN'S AFFAIRS PENSION PROGRAM**

**ALEXANDRIA, La.** – Fontaine C. Gremillion, 60, of Ferriday, Louisiana, was sentenced today to two years in prison for embezzling \$110,848.00 in pension benefits from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced. Gremillion, who has already paid restitution, was fined \$50,000.00 and ordered to serve 320 hours of community service following the completion of her prison sentence. The sentence was imposed by U. S. District Judge Donald E. Walter.

Gremillion was charged in November 2009 with embezzling pension benefits from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs. According to court documents filed at the time of the plea, Gremillion admitted that in 1999, acting pursuant to a power of attorney, she applied for pension benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs on behalf of her father. Over the following years, Gremillion misrepresented her father's financial eligibility by not disclosing all of his assets. The VA pension provides monthly financial payments to qualified veterans and is reduced by the amount of the veteran's annual income and net worth based on assets and may be disallowed or reduced because of excessive net worth.

The case was investigated by the Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Allison D. Bushnell.

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