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**LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER CONVICTED OF
BANKRUPTCY FRAUD**

MONROE, La. – Harriette Lynne King, 49, of Monroe, La., was convicted by a federal jury of bankruptcy fraud, concealment of property, knowing violation of a bankruptcy law, false statements under penalty of perjury, and false testimony under oath, United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today. The trial was presided over by United States District Judge Robert G. James.

King is the owner of HL King & Associates, Inc., a local business which claimed to provide legal services in the Monroe area. According to trial testimony, King committed numerous criminal violations as a bankruptcy petition preparer for at least three bankruptcy debtors. The testimony revealed that King wrongfully received legal fees and court costs from three debtors, after fraudulently representing herself as an attorney. Despite repeated orders from a bankruptcy judge to return all of the money to the debtors, King refused. Furthermore, King committed additional criminal violations when she later filed her own bankruptcy petition, including fraudulently claiming to own property she did not own and fraudulently omitting debts she was required to disclose as part of the bankruptcy process. She signed her bankruptcy petition under penalty of perjury, thereby verifying that all of the information was true and correct. Subsequently, King lied under oath when questioned about the false information in her bankruptcy petition.

The defendant faces a fine of \$250,000, imprisonment for five years, or both, for each count of bankruptcy fraud and concealment of assets.

The case was investigated by the FBI, Monroe Resident Agency, and the United States Bankruptcy Trustee's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robin S. McCoy and Joseph G. Jarzabek.

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