



Department of Justice

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**NATIONAL GUARD RECRUITER AND SOLDIER PLEAD GUILTY TO
AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT AND THEFT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS**

Jackson, Miss – Jimmy Jones, 26, of Crystal Springs, and Tivesy Sandifer, 29, of Jackson, have each pled guilty to defrauding the Mississippi National Guard, U.S. Attorney Gregory K. Davis announced. Jones pled guilty in federal court today to aggravated identity theft, and Sandifer pled guilty on April 3, 2012, to theft of government funds. Jones, a National Guard recruiter, admitted conspiring with Sandifer, a soldier, to fraudulently obtain incentive funds paid to soldiers for assisting in the recruitment of new National Guardsmen. Jones, who was not eligible to receive the incentive funds because he was a recruiter, used Sandifer's Guard Recruiter Assistance Program (GRAP) account to make it appear that Sandifer had assisted in recruiting several soldiers, when Jones had actually recruited them. As a result, Jones and Sandifer received incentive payments to which neither were entitled.

Jones will be sentenced by U.S. District Judge Daniel P. Jordan, III on July 10, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. He faces a mandatory sentence of two years in prison, and he must also forfeit a 2005 Ford Mustang which he obtained with the proceeds of the fraud.

Sandifer will be sentenced by U.S. Magistrate Judge F. Keith Ball on June 19, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. He faces up to one year in prison.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Gilbert and investigated by the United States Secret Service and the Army Criminal Investigation Division.

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