

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DECEMBER 5, 2008

CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

YUSILL SCRIBNER, REBEKAH CARMICHAEL,

JANICE OH

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(212) 637-2600

NEW YORK CITY CORRECTIONAL OFFICER ARRESTED FOR FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINING FEDERAL HOUSING SUBSIDIES

LEV L. DASSIN, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced the arrest of GENEVIEVE SIMMONS, 47, a New York City Correctional Officer, on charges of making false statements to a federal agency and theft of United States housing subsidies. According to the Complaint unsealed today:

SIMMONS has worked as a Correctional Officer with the New York City Department of Correction since March 1990. From April 2003 through March 2007, SIMMONS received Section 8 housing subsidies by falsely claiming that she was unemployed. By misrepresenting that she had no employment income, SIMMONS obtained more than \$40,000 in federal housing subsidies to which she was not entitled.

SIMMONS is charged with one count of embezzlement of government funds and four counts of making false statements to obtain Section 8 housing subsidies from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. If convicted on all counts, SIMMONS faces up to 30 years' imprisonment.

Mr. DASSIN commended the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of the Inspector General and the New York City Department of Investigation for their assistance in the investigation.

This case is being prosecuted by the Office's Public Corruption Unit. Assistant United States Attorney PABLO QUIÑONES is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges against the defendant are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven quilty.

08-311 ###