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**MANHATTAN U.S. ATTORNEY CHARGES THIRD NEW YORK CITY
EMPLOYEE WITH FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT**

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, CHRISTOPHER PAUL, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Field Office of the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Diplomatic Security ("DSS"), and ROSE GILL HEARN, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the unsealing of an Indictment charging ADRIENNE TONEY, an employee of the Department of Parks and Recreation for the City of New York ("Parks Department"), with fraud and identity theft. The defendant was arrested this morning and is expected to be presented in Manhattan federal court later today.

According to the Indictment filed in Manhattan federal court:

TONEY worked for the Parks Department as a Community Associate in one of its recreation centers. In 2008, she was supplied with the names and social security numbers of at least ten individuals that she used, without their knowledge or consent, to create false letters from the Social Security Administration acknowledging receipt of requests for replacement social security cards. Toney then sold the letters to the individual who supplied her with the original names and social security numbers, believing that person would use the letters to

obtain other government issued identification documents, such as driver's licenses, U.S. passports, and birth certificates.

TONEY, 44, of New York, New York, is charged with one count of fraud with identification documents and one count of aggravated identity theft. The fraud with identification documents count carries a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000, or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense; the aggravated identity theft count carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 2 years in prison. In addition, the Indictment seeks forfeiture of all crime proceeds.

Two other former New York City employees previously pled guilty and are currently serving their sentences for identity theft charges stemming from the sale of identity information to the same individual to whom TONEY sold the false Social Security Administration letters. MICHAEL WILLS, a former employee of the Human Resource Administration, was sentenced to two years in prison for stealing and selling copies of welfare recipients' birth certificates and social security cards. EDWARD JONES, a former employee of the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene, Bureau of Vital Statistics, was sentenced to eight months in prison for stealing and selling parental identification information he obtained from birth certificates.

Mr. BHARARA praised the investigative work of DSS and DOI.

These cases are being handled by the Office's Public Corruption Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorney CARRIE H. COHEN is in charge of the prosecutions.

The charges against TONEY contained in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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