



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

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For Immediate Release

April 29, 2009

**CITY HOUSING WORKER CHARGED WITH THEFT AND ATTEMPTED
WITNESS TAMPERING**

PHILADELPHIA - United States Attorney Laurie Magid, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent-in-Charge Janice Fedarcyk, and Philadelphia Inspector General Amy Kurland, today announced the filing of an Indictment¹ against Brenda Wilkins charging her with a scheme to defraud the government in a real estate transaction involving public housing. The indictment charges Wilkins, who is a retired real estate specialist for the Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation (“PHDC”), with theft concerning programs receiving federal funds, witness tampering, and making false statements.

According to the indictment, Wilkins arranged for the sale of a PHDC-property, located 5437 Marsden Street, to “TB” for \$1. The fair market value of the property at the time was approximately \$65,000. “TB” later sold the property to Wilkins’ daughter, “RW”, for \$1. The indictment further alleges that Brenda Wilkins advised “TB” to make false statements to authorities about the transaction.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR YEAR OF BIRTH
Brenda Wilkins	Philadelphia, PA	62

If convicted on all charges, Wilkins faces a maximum possible sentence of 24 to 30 months in prison, under advisory sentencing guidelines, plus restitution.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Philadelphia Inspector General’s Office. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Anthony Kyriakakis. This investigation is the result of the city’s initiative to crack down on corruption

¹An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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through a working partnership between the city and federal governments. The partnership involves the city's Office of Inspector General, the FBI, and the U.S. Attorney's office.

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