

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	CRIMINAL NO. 09 -
	:	
v.	:	DATE FILED: October 1, 2009
	:	
JOY JONES	:	VIOLATION:
	:	18 U.S.C. § 641 (conversion of government
	:	funds – 1 count)
	:	18 U.S.C. § 981 (criminal forfeiture)

INFORMATION

COUNT ONE

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

At all times material to this information:

1. The Social Security Administration (“SSA”), an agency of the United States, administered certain government benefit programs, including the Disability Insurance Benefit (“DIB”) program, pursuant to Title 42, United States Code, Sections 401-433.
2. The DIB program was an earned-right program funded through Social Security wage taxes. When an individual worked, that individual paid taxes on his or her wages into the Social Security trust fund. If that individual became “disabled” and paid sufficient Social Security taxes to become “insured,” as those terms were defined for purposes of the Social Security Act, he or she was eligible to receive disability insurance benefits, which was designed to replace part of the individual’s earnings lost due to disability.
3. DIB payments continued unless the disabled individual’s “disability” improved, or until the disabled individual returned to work or died.

4. The stepfather of defendant JOY JONES, identified in this information as "J.W.," received DIB benefits during his lifetime. The SSA mailed J.W.'s benefits checks to his address of record.

5. J.W. died on May 14, 1997.

6. SSA was not timely notified of J.W.'s death and continued to mail his benefits checks to his address of record, where defendant JOY JONES lived. From May 1997 through June 2006, defendant JOY JONES fraudulently cashed J.W.'s benefits checks.

7. During each month after the death of J.W. until June 2006, defendant JOY JONES, using either her photo identification or her photo identification plus a medical card in J.W.'s name, cashed J.W.'s benefits checks, and caused each check to bear a fraudulent signature for J.W.

8. In June 2006, approximately nine years after J.W.'s death, SSA learned that J.W. had died, and terminated his DIB payments.

9. Defendant JOY JONES improperly received a total of approximately \$48,779.00 in DIB payments that were intended for J.W., who was deceased, which defendant JOY JONES knew she was not entitled to receive.

10. Beginning in or about May 1997 and continuing through in or about June 2006, in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and elsewhere, defendant

JOY JONES

knowingly converted to her own use money of the United States in excess of \$1,000, that is, approximately \$48,779.00 in DIB payments that were intended for J.W., who was deceased.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

/s/ Michael L. Levy
MICHAEL L. LEVY
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY CHARGES THAT:

1. As a result of the violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641, set forth in this information, defendant

JOY JONES

shall forfeit to the United States of America:

- (a) any property used or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission such offense; and
- (b) any property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of such offense.

2. If any of the property subject to forfeiture, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- (a) cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- (b) has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- (c) has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- (d) has been substantially diminished in value; or
- (e) has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty;

it is the intent of the United States, pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), incorporating Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p), to seek forfeiture of any other property of the defendant(s) up to the value of the property subject to forfeiture.

All pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), and Title 18,
United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C).

/s/ Michael L. Levy
MICHAEL L. LEVY
United States Attorney