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**THREE INDICTED IN
KATRINA RELIEF SCAM**

Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced that **Danielle Metcalf Shanez, Shari Holder, and James Ervin Dixon**, were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury for the Southern District of Georgia for falsely and fraudulently representing themselves, pretending, and holding themselves out to be agents of the American Red Cross for the purpose of soliciting and receiving money from persons in the Dublin, Georgia area, purportedly to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina. The three defendants were also charged in a related gambling operation involving the solicitation of persons to buy tickets in an illegal lottery or raffle which was supposedly sponsored by the American Red Cross. Each of the three counts of the Indictment carries upon conviction a maximum term of imprisonment of five years and a fine of \$250,000.

The case is being investigated by Special Agent Vincent Dreaden of the Dublin office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Wood emphasized that an Indictment is only a criminal charge, not proof of guilt, and that all persons indicted are presumed by the law to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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