<u>United States Attorney Dunn Lampton</u> <u>Southern District of Mississippi</u>

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5 MISSISSIPPIANS ARRESTED FOR HURRICANE KATRINA FRAUD

Jackson, Mississippi - United States Attorney Dunn Lampton announced today that five more individuals have been arrested for FEMA fraud.

Shirann M. Everett, of Gulfport, Mississippi, was arrested on November 28, 2006 for making false statements to FEMA for Hurricane Katrina disaster assistance funds. Everett was indicted on November 7, 2006, for receiving \$19,921.13 from FEMA and American Red Cross by providing a false address in Gulfport, Mississippi, in claiming hurricane damage at that address. If convicted of these crimes she faces up to 40 years in prison and up to \$1,000,000 in fines

Curtis Morrow, of Biloxi, Mississippi, was arrested on November 28, 2006 for making false statements to FEMA for Hurricane Katrina disaster assistance funds. Morrow was indicted on November 7, 2006, for receiving \$4,358 from FEMA by providing a false address in Biloxi, Mississippi, in claiming hurricane damage at that address. If convicted of these crimes he faces up to 40 years in prison and up to \$1,000,000 in fines

Carolin Morrow, of Biloxi, Mississippi, was arrested on November 28, 2006 for making false statements to FEMA for Hurricane Katrina disaster assistance funds. Morrow was indicted on November 7, 2006, for receiving \$5,648 from FEMA by providing a false address in Biloxi, Mississippi, in claiming hurricane damage at that address. If convicted of these crimes she faces up to 80 years in prison and up to \$1,500,000 in fines

Ronald Nguyen, of Biloxi, Mississippi, was arrested on November 28, 2006 for making false statements to FEMA for Hurricane Katrina disaster assistance funds. Nguyen was indicted on November 7, 2006, for receiving \$4,358 from FEMA by providing a false address in Gulfport, Mississippi, in claiming hurricane damage at that address. If convicted of these crimes he faces up to 60 years in prison and up to \$1,250,000 in fines

Greg J. Parish, of Biloxi, Mississippi, was arrested on November 28, 2006 for making false statements to FEMA for Hurricane Katrina disaster assistance funds. Parish was indicted on November 7, 2006, for receiving \$4,358 from FEMA by providing a false address in Biloxi, Mississippi, in claiming hurricane damage at that address. If convicted of these crimes he faces up to 70 years in prison and up to \$1,500,000 in fines

In September, 2005, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created the national Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force, designed to deter, investigate and prosecute disaster-related federal crimes such as charity fraud, identity theft, procurement fraud and insurance fraud. The Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force - chaired by Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal

Division, Alice S. Fisher, includes members from the FBI, the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Labor Office of Inspector General, the Postal Inspector's Office and the Executive Office of United States Attorneys, among others.

Pursuant to the Justice Department initiative, a local Katrina Fraud Task Force, consisting of over 20 Federal and State law enforcement agencies, was formed in the Southern District of

Mississippi to pursue and prosecute individuals who engage in fraud associated with the hurricanes.

If anyone has information concerning possible fraud being committed during the post-Katrina recovery effort, please call either the DHS-OIG Fraud Hotline at 1-866-720-5721 or the FBI Fraud Hotline at 1-800-225-5324.

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