



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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Norfolk Sailor Pleads Guilty to Theft of TVs and Computers

(Norfolk, Virginia) – Yokeia M. Gibbs, age 27, of Columbia, South Carolina, pled guilty today to one count of theft of government property. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia and Thomas A. Betro, Director, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, made the announcement after Gibbs' plea was accepted by United States District Judge Jerome B. Friedman. Gibbs is set to be sentenced on July 31, 2008.

According to court documents, Gibbs was stationed at the Naval Support Activity onboard Naval Station Norfolk from March 2004 through March 2007. As part of her duties, Gibbs was assigned a government credit card to make relatively large purchases, such as televisions and computers, for the benefit of other Navy commands. The court documents further state that Gibbs received training concerning the permissible uses of the government credit card.

In 2004, Gibbs began using the credit card in a fraudulent manner. Gibbs made several purchases on the government credit card that were not authorized and that she intended for her own personal use. She would have these items delivered to the command warehouse, and then proceed to steal them by taking them home at a later time. These thefts went undetected.

In 2006, Gibbs began making larger and more frequent purchases with her government credit card. Many of these purchases were of high-end electronics items, such as LCD televisions and laptop computers. Gibbs kept some of these items for her own personal use, gave some to friends and family members, and had the majority of them sold. Court documents estimate that Gibbs profited in the amount of approximately \$10,000-15,000 from the sale of these fraudulently purchased items.

In March 2007, a tip was received by agents of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) regarding Gibbs' fraudulent activities. An investigation revealed that Gibbs had fraudulently purchased and stolen 162 notebook computers, 65 big screen televisions, 22 digital

cameras, and multiple other electronic devices such as camcorders, monitors and home theater systems. The total loss to the Navy stands at \$363,243.

The case was investigated by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. Special Assistant United States Attorney Joseph L. Kosky prosecuted the case for the United States.

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