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**VILLE PLATTE, LA MAN SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT
FOR THEFT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY**

Defendant ordered to pay restitution of \$177,824.50

Lafayette, La.: United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced today that William E. Marshall, 66, of Ville Platte, La., was sentenced Wednesday to 12 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release for the theft of government property. The sentence was handed down by U.S. District Judge Richard T. Haik as a result of Marshall's guilty plea in February 2012. The judge also ordered the defendant to pay full restitution.

Beginning in June of 2004 and continuing through January of 2010, Marshall stole \$177,824.50 in Veterans Administration benefits. The defendant transferred money from a friend's checking account into the friend's PayPal account. He then transferred the money from the PayPal account into his own accounts. Marshall acknowledged that he stole the money and used it for making various purchases and to pay his living expenses.

The case was investigated by Federal Bureau of Investigation, Lafayette Resident Agency, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kelly P. Uebinger.

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