

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 14, 2011
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

WOMAN SENTENCED FOR FEMA FRAUD

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Jenita B. Williams, 36, of Rochester, NY, who was convicted of theft of government funds, was sentenced to three years probation and ordered to pay \$2,000 restitution to the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") by U.S. District Judge David G. Larimer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Marisa J. Miller, who handled the case, stated that the defendant applied for and received disaster assistance benefits from FEMA after Hurricane Katrina made landfall in August 2005. At the time that the hurricane struck, Williams was living in Rochester, NY, but claimed she was living in New Orleans, LA and was affected by the storm. Williams later admitted that she had never lived or visited New Orleans.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General, under the direction of Special Agent In Charge Greg Null.

###