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DESTREHAN WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK LARCENY CHARGES IN FEDERAL COURT

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA - Jim Letten, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, James Bernazzani, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, announced today that Shelita Grandpre of Destrehan, Louisiana, age 32, pled guilty to stealing money from ASI Federal Credit Union during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Grandpre pled guilty before U. S. District Judge Jay C. Zainey to bank larceny, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2113(b). Grandpre was a member of ASI Federal Credit Union at the time of Hurricane Katrina. Due to a computer malfunction caused by Katrina, ASI account holders were able to withdraw unlimited amounts of cash through ATM transactions and to make unlimited purchases with their ASI debit cards. Grandpre overdrafted her ASI account by \$14,056.21.

The maximum sentence Grandpre could receive is ten (10) years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$250,000. Sentencing is set for March 6, 2007.

This case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation assigned to the Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeff Mitchell, and former Assistant United States Attorney William Gibbens.

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