



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Jim Letten
Eastern District of Louisiana

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2006
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/EDLA/

CONTACT: KATHY ENGLISH
PH: (504) 680-3068
FX: (504) 589-4859

ANOTHER LOUISIANA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEMA FRAUD

NEW ORLEANS — Jermaine White, 21, of Gray, La., pleaded guilty to making false statements regarding his application to the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) for disaster assistance benefits, announced U.S. Attorney Jim Letten of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

According to the factual basis, after Hurricane Katrina struck Louisiana, White applied for expedited assistance funds from FEMA, the \$2,000 which many evacuees received from FEMA. White indicated in his application that his primary address was a home located in Houma, La. that he had essential needs for “food, clothing or shelter,” and that he had “disaster related moving and storage expenses,” when in truth he never occupied or rented this rental property. According to the owner of the property, the home was vacant and was not leased to anyone during Hurricanes Katrina or Rita.

The maximum sentence White could receive is five years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

This case was investigated by special agents of the FBI assigned to the Katrina Fraud Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Carter K. D. Guice Jr. and Carol Michel.

###