



Department of Justice

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Southern District of Mississippi

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007
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**LOUISIANA MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON
FOR FEMA HOTEL ASSISTANCE FRAUD**

United States Attorney Dunn Lampton announced today that DERRICK SHANE MILLER of New Orleans was sentenced to 14 months in federal prison for mail fraud in connection with a scheme to defraud FEMA in its Hotel Assistance program. MILLER had previously pled guilty and admitted using his FEMA registration number to obtain multiple hotel rooms at nine different hotels in Jackson, Mississippi from October, 28, 2005 through March 31, 2006. MILLER also admitted that it was part of the scheme to defraud FEMA that he rented the rooms to others for cash.

MILLER was ordered to serve three years of supervised release following his prison term and to pay restitution to FEMA in the amount of \$27,811.40.

In September, 2005, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created the Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force, designed to deter, investigate and prosecute disaster-related federal crimes such as charity fraud, identity theft, procurement fraud and insurance fraud. The Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force - chaired by Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division - includes members from the FBI, the Federal Trade Commission, the Postal Inspector's Office and the Executive Office of United States Attorneys, among others.

Pursuant to the Justice Department initiative, a local Katrina Fraud Task Force, consisting of over 20 Federal and State law enforcement agencies, was formed in the Southern District of Mississippi to pursue and prosecute individuals who file false and fraudulent claims.

If anyone has information concerning possible fraud being committed during the post-Katrina recovery effort, please call either the DHS-OIG Fraud Hotline at 1-866-720-5721 or the FBI Fraud Hotline at 1-800-225-5324.

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