



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias
Northern District of Georgia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

02/17/06

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>

CONTACT: Patrick Crosby

(404)581-6016

FAX (404)581-6160

KATRINA FRAUD DEFENDANT SENTENCED

Atlanta, GA - JOZELL LOIS DICKERSON, 36, of Lawrenceville, Georgia, was sentenced late yesterday by United States District Judge Charles A. Pannell, Jr. on a felony charge of obtaining FEMA assistance funds by falsely claiming that she was a victim of Hurricane Katrina.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said, "This prosecution helps vindicate the public's interest in ensuring that government resources intended to benefit those who truly suffered from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina are not stolen by persons seeking to benefit from that tragedy."

DICKERSON was sentenced to 3 years probation with the first 6 months in home confinement, monitored with an electronic device. She was ordered to pay \$4,000 in restitution and ordered to pay a fine of \$2,000. DICKERSON pleaded guilty to the charge on December 6, 2005.

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: DICKERSON falsely represented to FEMA that she was a resident of New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans on August 29, 2005. She used a false name and a social security number that belonged to another person to apply for and receive two \$2,000 emergency assistance funds payments from FEMA in September 2005.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney Richard M. Langway prosecuted the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney or William Mc Kinnon, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.