

Department of Justice

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias Northern District of Georgia

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CONTACT: Patrick Crosby (404)581-6016 FAX (404)581-6160

DEFENDANT ARRESTED IN FEBRUARY 2006 MORTGAGE FRAUD/ IDENTITY THEFT STING ARRESTED IN 2nd FRAUD STING WHILE ON BOND

Borrower Using Stolen Identity in Million Dollar Mortgage Fraud Rearrested by FBI in Second Stolen Identity Fraud, Ordered Held Without Bond Today

Atlanta, GA - The United States Attorney's Office today announced the May 30, 2006 arrest of LANAMASHA WESLANDA MIXON-HAMPTON, 30, of Atlanta, in connection with an FBI sting involving a co-conspirator from her prior mortgage fraud case and the interstate transportation of stolen travelers checks, fraudulent credit cards and false identifications. MIXON-HAMPTON was previously arrested at the closing table on February 17, 2006, in an FBI mortgage fraud sting where the stolen identity of a disabled retiree was used in at attempt to obtain a million-dollar refinance loan for 940 Glengate Place in Atlanta, the property where MIXON-HAMPTON then resided. Ms. MIXON-HAMPTON was released on bond and indicted for the mortgage fraud and aggravated identity theft on March 14, 2006.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said, "The sting operations that resulted in both arrests of this defendant are examples of the tools now used by law enforcement to fight identity theft and mortgage fraud schemes that continue to adversely effect Atlanta citizens and their neighborhoods. Such proactive initiative by law enforcement is one of the reasons that Georgia's mortgage fraud national ranking has recently decreased from number one to number three."

FBI Special Agent in Charge Greg Jones said today, "The FBI is committed to continuing such investigative techniques as needed until the mortgage fraud and identity theft problem in this area is under control."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the documents and information presented in court: A Criminal Complaint charges MIXON-HAMPTON with mail and wire fraud, interstate transportation of stolen goods and commission of these offenses while on release for mortgage fraud offenses. MIXON-HAMPTON allegedly caused \$50,000 worth of stolen American Express Travelers Cheques to be sent to her in Atlanta

from Hawaii which she then attempted to negotiate using a false identity and forwarded the remainder to Florida for sale and negotiation. MIXON-HAMPTON was arrested in an FBI sting on May 30, 2006, when cash "proceeds" from the stolen checks and the fraudulent credit card she had ordered were delivered to her, while she was on bond on the earlier mortgage fraud charges.

After appearing before United States Magistrate Judge Linda T. Walker this afternoon, MIXON-HAMPTON was ordered to be detained without bond.

Members of the public are reminded that this criminal complaint contains only allegations. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and the government bears the burden at trial of proving a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

This case is being investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney Gale McKenzie is prosecuting the case.

For further information, please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-meus), United States Attorney 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.