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LAKELAND MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING FEMA TRAILER

TAMPA, FLORIDA - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill today announced that Douglas John Lavigne, a 51 year old resident of Lakeland, Florida pleaded guilty to Theft of Government property for stealing a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) trailer which had been issued to a victim of Hurricane Jean. The maximum penalty Lavigne faces is 10 years' imprisonment, a \$250,000.00 fine, and 3 years of supervised release.

According to the plea agreement, an individual was issued a FEMA trailer to live in while her home was being repaired after sustaining damage from Hurricane Jean. Lavigne went to her home and stole the FEMA trailer by hooking it up and then driving away with it. He attempted to resell the stolen trailer.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda C. Kaiser.