



Department of Justice

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Middle District of Louisiana

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**ANOTHER SENTENCED, TWO MORE PLEAD GUILTY
IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, ON DISASTER RELIEF FRAUD CHARGES**

BATON ROUGE, LA – Another Louisiana resident was sentenced, and two more pled guilty in federal court on charges of fraud related to hurricane disaster relief programs, United States Attorney David R. Dugas announced today.

WEST CLARK, age 28, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, pled guilty on July 31, 2007, to Count Two of an indictment charging him with illegal theft/conversion of government property, that is, a check from FEMA for expedited disaster assistance. CLARK was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge James J. Brady to a term of imprisonment of six months and \$2,000 in restitution. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General conducted the investigation of this matter.

COREY A. MYLES, age 38, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, pled guilty yesterday before U.S. District Court Judge Frank J. Polozola to Count One of an indictment charging him with mail fraud. The case was investigated by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. As a result of his guilty plea, MYLES faces a maximum sentence of twenty (20) years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both. As part of the plea agreement, the U.S. Attorney's Office will dismiss Count Two of the indictment when MYLES is sentenced on Count One.

THALISHA DAVIS, age 29, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, pled guilty yesterday before U.S. District Court Judge Frank J. Polozola to an indictment charging her with two counts of making a false and fraudulent claim for disaster assistance benefits (Counts One and Two) and one count of theft of government property (Count Three). The indictment in this matter was filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of Texas. The case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General. As a result of her guilty plea, DAVIS faces a maximum sentence of five (5) years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both on Counts One and Two, and a maximum sentence of ten (10) years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both on Count Three.

The total number of individuals who have been charged in the Middle District of Louisiana with violations related to hurricane disaster relief funds stands at one hundred twenty-eight.

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 the FBI, the U.S. Inspectors General community, the U.S. Secret Service, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and others.

For further information, contact David R. Dugas, U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana, or Lyman Thornton, First Assistant U.S. Attorney, at (225) 389-0443. Anyone suspecting criminal activity involving disaster assistance programs can make an anonymous report by calling the toll-free Hurricane Relief Fraud Hotline, 1-866-720-5721, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, until further notice. Information can also be emailed to the Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force at HKFTF@leo.gov or sent by surface mail, with as many details as possible, to Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4909.

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