

The United States Attorney's Office

## **Eastern District of Kentucky**

## PRESS RELEASE

February 8 , 2007

**COVINGTON, Ky.** — Quincy M. Harkness, 25, of Cincinnati, Ohio was indicted today for charges of making false statements and demands against the United States.

The Indictment alleges that Harkness, an employee for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), submitted false time and attendance sheets and travel vouchers while he was working as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) hurricane relief effort from October to December of 2005 in Kenton County, Ky.

If convicted of all the charges, he faces a maximum of five years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$250,000, along with a maximum one year term of supervised release.

The investigation preceding the Indictment was conducted by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA). The Indictment was presented to the grand jury by Assistant United States Attorney Elaine Leonhard.

Amul R. Thapar, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky, and J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for the Tax Administration, jointly made the announcement today after a federal grand jury in Covington, Ky., returned the Indictment.

Harkness' appearance before the United States District Court has not yet been set by the court in Covington, Ky.

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The indictment of a person by a grand jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.