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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Detroit, Michigan

**AN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT AGENT
CHARGED WITH MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS
AND ACCEPTING A BRIBE**

An Immigration Enforcement Agent with the Detroit, Michigan Office of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement division of the Department of Homeland Security was charged today in a criminal complaint with one count of making materially false statements and accepting a bribe, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today.

Murphy was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Thomas Frost, Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General, Inspector General Glen Fine, Department of Justice and Special Agent in Charge Edward Dwyer of the Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General.

Named in the complaint was Ramon Williams , 27, of Taylor.

The supporting affidavit alleges that from approximately August 2003 to February 2004, Williams was assigned the temporary duty of Deportation Officer. As an Acting Deportation Officer, Williams was responsible for adjudicating requests for removal of aliens in accordance with laws and regulations. One of the relevant ICE guidelines provided that aliens who were subject to mandatory detention, such as individuals with serious criminal records, were not eligible for placement on electronic monitoring devices or the tether program.

The affidavit further alleges that a girlfriend of a deportable alien, who was not eligible for placement on tether and who was then under William's supervision, was asked by Williams to assist in finding a job for William's wife. Williams requested the employment assistance for his wife in exchange for placing the ineligible deportable alien into a non-

custodial status pending his deportation from the United States. Williams was subsequently interviewed by agents of the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General and gave a written statement denying his acceptance of any offer or assistance in connection with the arrest and release of the deportable alien. Later in 2005, Williams provided a second written statement in which he recanted his previous statement and admitted that he had arranged for assistance in finding his wife a job and acknowledged that he had lied to investigators.

United States Attorney Murphy stated, "Any allegations of criminal wrong doing by federal officials will be met with a robust and thorough-going prosecutive response from this Office. Such conduct represents a breach of trust with the public that cannot be countenanced or tolerated."

Special Agent in Charge Thomas M. Frost stated "The Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General, aggressively investigates allegations of corruption within the Department and refuses to accept anything less than the highest level of integrity from the Department's employees. However, it is important to point out that this incident is not indicative of the Department's hard working law enforcement personnel that put their lives on the line every day to protect the citizens of the United States. "

Inspector General Glenn Fine, Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General, stated, "Department of Justice employees are not for sale."

Special Agent Edward Dyner stated, "Corruption will not be tolerated within the Department of Justice and corrupt employees will be pursued aggressively."

Williams appeared in federal court this afternoon and was released on an unsecured bond. His preliminary examination is scheduled for 1 p.m. September 18, 2006.

A conviction for these offenses carries a maximum penalty of seven years in prison or a fine of up to \$500,000 fine, or both. Any sentence will ultimately be imposed under the United States Sentence Guidelines according to the nature of the offense and the criminal background, if any, of the defendant.

A complaint is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. Trial cannot be held on felony charges in a complaint. When the investigation is completed a determination will be made whether to seek a felony indictment.

This case is being investigated by the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Justice. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bruce Judge.