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Couple Indicted for Concealment of Assets

United States Attorney Dunn Lampton and United States Bankruptcy Trustee R. Michael Bolen announced the indictment of Dorothy Mae McKee and Willie Albert McKee, Jr. charging three counts of Concealment of Assets, Making a False Oath, and Making a False Statement Under Penalties of Perjury. The indictment charges that the defendants, Dorothy Mae McKee and Willie Albert McKee, Jr., filed a voluntary petition for bankruptcy in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Hinds County in December of 2000. In September of 2001, as a part of that bankruptcy petition, the defendants, Dorothy Mae McKee and Willie Albert McKee, Jr., were required to disclose any liquidated or unliquidated debt and personal property of any kind owned or claimed by them. The Indictment charges that each of the defendants failed to disclose the existence of a claim against American Home Products, in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 152.

"The U.S. Trustee Program is the component of the Justice Department that works to protect the integrity of our nation's bankruptcy system by litigating to enforce the bankruptcy laws and ensuring that cases are properly administered," stated U. S. Trustee R. Michael Bolen. "We are extremely pleased to partner with the U. S. Attorney's Office and federal investigative

agencies to combat fraudulent actions, such as filing a false bankruptcy petition and attempting to conceal assets from the bankruptcy court and the trustee."

U.S. Attorney Dunn Lampton added that, "Filing false information and falsely swearing about the information you do file deprives creditors of their legal rights and diminishes the public's faith in the bankruptcy process."

If convicted, the defendants could be sentenced to a maximum term of 5 years as to each count of the indictment.

U.S. Attorney Lampton stressed that these charges represent an accusation only and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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