



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney  
Southern District of Mississippi

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 17, 2009**

**FORMER BANKRUPTCY DEBTOR CONVICTED**  
**FOR FAILURE TO DISCLOSE LAWSUIT ON BANKRUPTCY SCHEDULES**

Jackson, Mississippi - Acting U.S. Attorney Stan Harris and U.S. Trustee R. Michael Bolen, announced that **Linda McWilliams Hardy** was convicted of concealment of assets, commonly referred to as bankruptcy fraud. Specifically, Hardy was convicted of concealing a lawsuit in her bankruptcy case which was ultimately settled for \$437,500.00. Hardy filed a personal injury lawsuit on September 18, 2001, against GE Modular Space, doing business as Transport International Pool Corporation. Then, in 2003, and while the lawsuit was still pending, Hardy filed a Chapter 7 bankruptcy case and did not disclose the lawsuit. The lawsuit thereafter settled and Hardy received \$225,036.62 which she concealed from the Chapter 7 trustee.

Acting U.S. Attorney Harris noted that "Bankruptcy fraud is a serious criminal offense that can have substantial victim impact and will be vigorously prosecuted. In this case, there were multiple victims."

Hardy will be sentenced on June 26, 2009 at 9:00 am before the Honorable Henry T. Wingate, Chief U. S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi. Hardy faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Harold Brittain and by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Sammie Tharp.

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