



The United States Attorney's Office
Eastern District of Louisiana



COVINGTON WOMAN SENTENCED FOR DEFRAUDING STATE FARM INSURANCE

August 5, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARY RICKERSON LETELLIER, age 42, a resident of Covington, Louisiana, was sentenced today by Judge Stanwood R. Duval to ten (10) months home incarceration and five (5) years probation for one count of mail fraud relating to a fraudulent insurance claim, announced U. S. Attorney Jim Letten.

According to court documents, **MARY RICKERSON LETELLIER**, owned a home in Chalmette, Louisiana until August 26, 2005, when she sold it to two other people. When Hurricane Katrina struck Southeastern Louisiana on August 29, 2005, the home was destroyed. A week later, on September 6, 2005, **LETELLIER** filed claims on her homeowners and flood insurance policies with State Farm, failing to indicate that she had, in fact, sold the property just two days before it was destroyed. As a result of the fraudulent insurance claim, the defendant received \$82,399.79 from State Farm Insurance. Judge Duval ordered **LETELLIER** to make full restitution to State Farm, with \$42,000.00 due as a lump sum within 30 days.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Louisiana State Police, and Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Dan Friel.