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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 5, 2002

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**IRS EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH CREDIT CARD FRAUD, IDENTITY THEFT,
AND UNLAWFULLY ACCESSING TAXPAYER INFORMATION**

(AUSTIN, TEXAS) SUZETTE MICHELE GREEN, a 39-year-old Internal Revenue Service employee in Austin, was charged by a federal grand jury on June 4, 2002, with offenses involving identity theft, credit card fraud, and unlawfully inspecting taxpayer information.

In an indictment, Green is charged with one count each of Unlawful Use of a Means of Identification; Fraudulent Use of Unauthorized Access Devices; Unauthorized Inspection of Tax Return Information; and Fraudulent Use of a Social Security Number.

The indictment, as well as an affidavit previously filed in this case, alleges that from 1999 through 2002, Green, a Tax Examining Assistant with the IRS, fraudulently used a social security number belonging to a person with a similar name, Susan B. Green, to open at least five fraudulent credit card accounts and to obtain a vehicle lease and financing, while also using variations of the victim's true name. Green is alleged to have used the fraudulently obtained credit cards to make tens of thousands of dollars in purchases. The indictment further alleges that, in July 1999, Green, without authorization and using her IRS computer, accessed tax information pertaining to the same victim. The day after unlawfully accessing the IRS information, Green is alleged to have entered into a vehicle lease using the victim's name and social security number, and supplied a false financial reference.

The charge of unlawful use of a means of identification carries a maximum punishment of 15 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The charge of fraudulent use of unauthorized access devices carries a maximum punishment of ten years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The charge of fraudulent use of a social security number carries a maximum punishment of five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The charge of unauthorized inspection of tax return information carries a maximum punishment of one year imprisonment and a \$100,000 fine.

It is important to note that an indictment is not evidence of guilt.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, with assistance from the Social Security Administration. Assistant United States Attorney Matthew Devlin is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

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