# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA



# BILL OF INFORMATION FOR COMPUTER FRAUD BY ACCESSING A PROTECTED COMPUTER OF THE ORLEANS PARISH CRIMINAL SHERIFF'S OFFICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CRIMINAL NO.

v.

\* SECTION:

**GELISHIA GARRISON** 

VIOLATIONS: 18 U.S.C. §1030(a)(4)

18 U.S.C. §1030(c)(3)(A)

The United States Attorney charges that:

# COUNT 1

## A. AT ALL TIMES MATERIAL HEREIN:

- 1. From in and around 2006 through in and around 2010, the defendant, GELISHIA GARRISON, worked for the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff, as a part-time employee in Orleans Parish Prison.
  - 2. From a time prior to in and around 2006 through in and around 2010, GELISHIA

GARRISON was also a full-time employee of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court Clerk's Office

- 3. The Orleans Parish Prison (hereinafter "O.P.P.") was a governmental entity of Orleans Parish, tasked with housing criminal defendants who had been ordered held on bail pending trial in the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court.
- 4. Personal recognizance bonds are normally reserved for individual criminal defendants who have been determined by a judge of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court to not pose a danger to the community and to stand a strong likelihood to re-appear in court as ordered.
- 5. O.P.P. utilized "CINTAP," a computerized system within which criminal defendants' and inmates' bail status and records of incarceration were retained. Among the information retained, controlled, and entered into this computerized system were a criminal defendant's bail amount and orders of release.
- 6. In order to effect a change in a criminal defendant's bail status from being held on bond to being released on personal recognizance, a formal Order of Release was to be authorized and signed by a judge; however, in common practice, employees of O.P.P. would personally sign an Order of Release per a judge's instructions.
- 7. A change in a defendant's bail status entered through the use of this computerized system caused a corresponding change to the official and publicly accessible internet site of the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff, an internet site that was fully integrated with and accessible through common and ordinary means of internet access. This computerized system affected interstate commerce and was therefore a protected computer, as defined by Title 18, United States Code,

Section 1030.

- 8. It was a part of **GELISHIA GARRISON's** official duties as an employee at O.P.P. to receive bail orders from judges of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court during non-official hours. Included among these bail orders were reductions in bond amounts and alterations of criminal defendants' bail from being held pending bond to being released on recognizance.
- 9. **GELISHIA GARRISON** accessed this computerized system in the course of her employment at O.P.P. with limited authorization of the Criminal Sheriff for Orleans Parish, for the legitimate and proper purpose of receiving the orders, including orders to release on recognizance, of judges of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court.

#### B. THE OFFENSE

On or about December 12, 2008, within the Eastern District of Louisiana, and elsewhere, the defendant, **GELISHIA GARRISON**, knowingly and with intent to defraud, accessed a protected computer, for an illegitimate and improper purpose, thereby exceeding her authorized access, and by means of such conduct furthered the intended fraud and obtained something of value, specifically, one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) in the form of a money gram, in exchange for accessing and manipulating O.P.P.'s computerized system to effect the release of Orleans Parish Criminal Defendant "A," by fraudulently and without authorization reducing Orleans Parish Criminal Defendant "A's" bail status from a \$75,000 bond to personal recognizance; in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(4) and (c)(3)(A).

### COUNT 2

A. The allegations contained in Part A of Count 1 are hereby incorporated and realleged by

reference.

B. On or about December 13, 2009, within the Eastern District of Louisiana, and elsewhere, the defendant, GELISHIA GARRISON, knowingly and with intent to defraud, accessed a protected computer, for an illegitimate and improper purpose, thereby exceeding her authorized access, and by means of such conduct furthered the intended fraud and obtained something of value, specifically, a quantity of cash in exchange for accessing and manipulating O.P.P.'s computerized system to effect the release of Orleans Parish Defendant "B," by fraudulently and without authorization reducing Orleans Parish Criminal Defendant "B's" bail status from a \$20,000 bond to personal recognizance; in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(4) and (c)(3)(A).

## **COUNT 3**

- A. The allegations contained in Part A of Count 1 are hereby incorporated and realleged by reference.
- B. On or about December 14, 2009, within the Eastern District of Louisiana, and elsewhere, the defendant, GELISHIA GARRISON, knowingly and with intent to defraud, accessed a protected computer, for an illegitimate and improper purpose, thereby exceeding her authorized access, and by means of such conduct furthered the intended fraud and obtained something of value, specifically, a quantity of cash in exchange for accessing and manipulating O.P.P.'s computerized system to effect the release of Orleans Parish Defendant "C," by fraudulently and without authorization reducing Orleans Parish Criminal Defendant "C's" bail status from a \$55,500 bond to personal recognizance; in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(4) and (c)(3)(A).

## **COUNT 4**

A. The allegations contained in Part A of Count 1 are hereby incorporated and realleged by

reference.

B. On or about December 28, 2009, within the Eastern District of Louisiana, and elsewhere, the

defendant, GELISHIA GARRISON, knowingly and with intent to defraud, accessed a protected

computer, for an illegitimate and improper purpose, thereby exceeding her authorized access, and

by means of such conduct furthered the intended fraud and obtained something of value, specifically,

a quantity of cash in exchange for accessing and manipulating O.P.P.'s computerized system to

effect the release of Orleans Parish Defendant "D," by fraudulently and without authorization

reducing Orleans Parish Criminal Defendant "D's" bail status from a \$55,000 bond to personal

recognizance; in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(4) and (c)(3)(A).

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