



*U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Southern District of Mississippi*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 16, 2008**

**FORMER DIRECTOR OF U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE SENTENCED
ON FEDERAL EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGE**

Natchez, Mississippi - **DONALD SMITH**, former Acting Director of the Graduate Institute for the Engineer Research and Development Center at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi, was sentenced today to 12 months and 1 day in prison, followed by 3 years of supervised release, for embezzlement of federal government funds during his employment with the Army Corps, U.S. Attorney Dunn Lampton announced. Smith was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$71,194.97.

Smith was indicted on July 22, 2008, by a federal grand jury for embezzling, stealing, and converting to his own use money or other property belonging to the United States having a value of more than \$1,000, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641. According to the indictment, Smith used various government credit cards from January 2004 through March 2005 to purchase over \$56,400.46 in items for his personal use, as well as submitting various fraudulent travel claims from December 2004 through July 2006 amounting to \$14,794.51.

On October 7, 2008, Smith pled guilty and agreed to pay back the \$71,194.97 alleged in the indictment to have been embezzled.

U.S. Attorney Lampton commended the investigative efforts of the Special Agents of the United States Army Criminal Investigation Command, Vicksburg Fraud Resident Agency. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mike Hurst.

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