



Department of Justice

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**PASCAGOULA WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO KATRINA FRAUD AND FALSELY
USING ANOTHER PERSON'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**

Gulfport, Miss. – Talvesha Glaude a/k/a Talvisha Glaude, of Pascagoula, Mississippi, appeared before U.S. District Judge Sul Ozerden in federal court on February 18, and pled guilty to mail fraud against the Federal Emergency Management Agency related to Hurricane Katrina benefits, and falsely using another person's social security number, U.S. Attorney Donald R. Burkhalter announced today.

Glaude admitted that, after filing one legitimate application for disaster assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, she fraudulently applied a second time, falsely representing in that application her residency at the time of Hurricane Katrina. In that second application, she applied using a minor child's social security number and a slight variation of her first name. She further admitted to fraudulently using that social security number to open multiple savings and checking accounts, apply for various loans, and purchase a certificate of deposit. Glaude faces a maximum penalty of twenty years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000.00. She is scheduled for sentencing before U.S. District Judge Halil S. Ozerden on May 7, 2010.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General in Mobile, Alabama, with significant assistance from the U.S. Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General in Jackson, Mississippi.

In September, 2005, former Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created the national Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force, designed to deter, investigate and prosecute disaster-related federal crimes such as charity fraud, identity theft, procurement fraud and insurance fraud. The Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force - chaired by Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division, Lanny A. Breuer, includes members from the FBI, Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General, the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Labor Office of Inspector General, the Postal Inspector's Office and the Executive Office of United States Attorneys, among others.

Pursuant to the Justice Department initiative, a local Katrina Fraud Task Force, consisting of over 20 Federal and State law enforcement agencies, was formed in the Southern District of Mississippi to pursue and prosecute individuals who engage in fraud associated with the hurricanes.

If anyone has information concerning possible fraud being committed during the post-Katrina recovery effort, please call either the DHS-OIG Fraud Hotline at 1-866-720-5721 or the FBI Fraud Hotline at 1-800-225-5324.

