

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 29, 2008

## FORMER DIRECTOR OF U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE INDICTED ON FEDERAL EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGES

Jackson, Miss - U.S. Attorney Dunn Lampton announced that **DONALD SMITH** made his initial appearance in federal court today on federal embezzlement charges relating to his employment at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Smith, the former Director of the Graduate Studies Institute of the Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center at the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, was indicted on July 22, 2008, by a federal grand jury on two counts of "embezzling, stealing, purloining 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."

If convicted of the charges, Smith faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. According to the indictment, Smith used various government credit cards to purchase over \$56,400.46 in items for his personal use, as well as submitting various fraudulent travel claims amounting to \$14,794.51.

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.

Lampton also noted that, as in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The charges filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.

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