



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Southern District of Mississippi

*188 East Capitol Street, Suite 500
Jackson, Mississippi 39201*

*601-965-4480
FTS 490-4480*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 23, 2009

TEXAS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT

Jackson, Miss - Stan Harris, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, and Allen Bryant, Resident Agent in Charge of the United States Secret Service, announced that Stephen Bradford of Houston, Texas, entered a guilty plea today to Aggravated Identity Theft before Judge Tom S. Lee in U.S. District Court in Jackson. Bradford is scheduled to be sentenced on October 1, 2009. He faces a mandatory sentence of two years in federal prison, and a fine of up to \$250,000. Bradford must also pay full restitution to all victims.

Bradford was stopped by the Madison Police Department on May 22, 2009, after a local business reported an attempt to use a fraudulent credit card. He presented a false Texas drivers license to the officers, which resulted in his arrest. Bradford was found to be in possession of nine fraudulent credit cards, one of which matched the name on the false drivers license. The investigation revealed that Bradford had made purchases in excess of \$1000 that same day in Jackson using fraudulent credit cards.

This case was the result of a joint investigation involving the U. S. Attorney's Office, the United States Secret Service, the Madison Police Department, and other law enforcement agencies participating in the Metro Jackson Identity Theft Task Force.

###