



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
YUSILL SCRIBNER,
REBEKAH CARMICHAEL
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 637-2600**

**FORMER NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY
TO DEFRAUDING FEDERAL SECTION 8 HOUSING PROGRAM**

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that EDDIE SPELLER, 31, a former New York City Police Department ("NYPD") police officer, pleaded guilty in Manhattan federal court earlier today to theft of United States Government funds. According to the Information filed in this case and statements made during SPELLER's guilty plea proceeding before United States District Judge DEBORAH A. BATTS:

SPELLER began receiving Section 8 housing subsidies in 2003, and from 2005 to 2007, underreported his income in order to continue receiving the subsidies, to which he was no longer entitled. Although SPELLER was hired by the NYPD in 2005, he never reported to the Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") that he had been hired by the NYPD as a police officer, and that his annual salary had increased as a result. SPELLER received more than \$30,000 in Section 8 subsidies for which he was not eligible.

SPELLER faces a maximum of 10 years in prison at his sentencing, scheduled for June 30, 2008 at 10 a.m., before Judge BATTS. As part of his guilty plea, SPELLER has agreed to pay full restitution, the exact amount of which is to be determined at sentencing.

Mr. GARCIA thanked the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General for its work in the investigation, and thanked the NYPD's Internal Affairs Bureau for its assistance and cooperation in this case.

Assistant United States Attorneys CHRISTINE WONG and RUA KELLY are in charge of this prosecution.