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**SACRAMENTO MAN CONVICTED FOR FRAUDULENT RECEIPT  
OF HURRICANE KATRINA DISASTER MONEY**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that Sacramento resident, LARRY McDANIEL, 34, pled guilty today before United States District Court Judge Garland E. Burrell to making numerous false claims upon the United States, through FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency), for Hurricane Katrina disaster relief.

In September 2005, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created the 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 Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division-includes the FBI, the United States Inspectors General community, the United States Secret Service, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, and others.

This case was specifically investigated by the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General, and the United States Postal Inspection Service.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, McDANIEL was indicted in connection with Hurricane Katrina fraud offenses, and pled guilty to three felony counts of making false claims for disaster assistance shortly after Hurricane Katrina. McDANIEL admitted that he took cash aid and housing financial assistance totaling \$12,251.01 intended for disaster relief victims of Hurricane Katrina. McDANIEL signed documents certifying false information to FEMA.

McDANIEL is scheduled to be sentenced on February 16, 2007. The maximum penalty he faces is 15 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors. He also will receive a 3-year term of federal supervised release.

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