



Department of Justice

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Middle District of Alabama

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**FEMA MANAGER INDICTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT OF TRAVEL TRAILER
INTENDED FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANES
KATRINA AND RITA**

Montgomery, Ala.—A former FEMA manager, Randy Broome, age 58, of Valparaiso, Florida has been indicted for embezzlement of a trailer intended for victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, embezzlement of a government vehicle, and obstruction of justice, U.S. Attorney Leura Canary announced today.

The indictment alleges that Broome was previously employed by FEMA Emergency Housing Unit in Selma, Alabama, which FEMA used for the storage, transportation, and delivery of travel trailers in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. While the manager, Broome embezzled a 39 foot Cherokee Travel Trailer and his government vehicle, which he had access to by virtue of his management position with FEMA. The indictment also charges Broome with attempting to corruptly influence the ongoing investigation against him in the Middle District of Alabama.

Broome is the 57th defendant that the Middle District of Alabama has charged in a Hurricane Katrina and Rita fraud-related case. According to statistics kept by the Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force (HKTF), headquartered in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, thus far the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Alabama has charged the most defendants in the

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state of Alabama and the sixth most nationwide. Moreover, the Middle District has obtained the longest sentence (516 months) and the seventh longest sentence (72 months) for fraud arising out of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Alabama is a member of the Department of Justice's HKTF, created by the Department of Justice in September 2005 to deter, detect, investigate and prosecute disaster-related federal crimes. The Task Force is comprised of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, and United States Attorneys' Offices from the Gulf Coast region and nationwide.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations. Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher A. Snyder is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

If anyone has information concerning possible fraud being committed during the post-Katrina recovery effort, please call either the Department of Homeland Security Office or the Inspector General Fraud Hotline at 1-866-720-5721.

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