

The United States Attorney's Office

Eastern District of Louisiana

Press Releases

CHALMETTE MAN CHARGED WITH THEFT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS

June 24, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLES DAVID THONN, age 50 , a resident of Chalmette, Louisiana, was charged yesterday in a one-count Bill of Information with theft of government funds, announced U. S. Attorney Jim Letten.

According to Bill, on September 20, 2006, **THONN** applied for a Louisiana Road Home grant to obtain funds for the property located at 50892 Chef Menteur Highway in New Orleans. In his application, **THONN** falsely reported that he was separated from his wife and that the Chef Menteur Highway property was his primary residence. It is alleged that based upon the fraudulent claims, **THONN** was awarded a Louisiana Road Home grant in the amount of \$80,368.00 which was deposited into a bank account maintained by **THONN**.

The count carries a maximum term of imprisonment of ten (10) years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, three (3) years of supervised release following any term of imprisonment, and \$100.00 special assessment.

U. S. Attorney Letten reiterated that the indictment is merely a charge and that the guilt of the defendant must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case was investigated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Andre' Jones.