



# PRESS RELEASE

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

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## FORMER FDIC EMPLOYEE SENTENCED IN IDENTITY FRAUD SCHEME

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) Inspector General Gaston L. Gianni, Jr., announced today that former FDIC employee Theresa A. Hill of Seat Pleasant, MD, was sentenced on May 29, 2001, to five years of probation, including six months of home confinement, in connection with an identity fraud scheme. Ms. Hill was also ordered to pay \$87,531 in restitution. The scheme's victims included employees of the FDIC and the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG).

This case was investigated by the Inspectors General of the FDIC and HHS and is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Maryland.

According to the Statement of Facts presented during her March 1, 2001, guilty plea, from August 1999 through June 2000, Ms. Hill conspired with five others - Timothy D. Fleming and Shannon A. Williams of Capital Heights, MD; Ruby L. Downing and Arthur Mathews of Washington, DC, and Yolaunda R. Thomas of Temple Hills, MD - to obtain goods and services on credit by using the names and personal information of unwitting victims.

Ms. Hill admitted that the conspirators obtained fraudulent identification cards in the victims' names, and used the names to open credit accounts, obtain goods and services in retail stores and order merchandise over the Internet. Purchases included gift certificates, jewelry and electronic equipment. In furtherance of the conspiracy, Ms. Hill checked the victims' credit status by applying for credit accounts using the victims' names, Social Security numbers and other identifying information.

The indictment alleges that the conspirators obtained personal information, including names, birth dates, Social Security numbers and home addresses, about victims who were employed by the FDIC and the HHS OIG. Ms. Hill was employed in the FDIC's



Congress created the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in 1933 to restore public confidence in the nation's banking system. It promotes the safety and soundness of these institutions by identifying, monitoring and addressing risks to which they are exposed. The FDIC receives no federal tax dollars — insured financial institutions fund its operations.

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finance division, where she allegedly had access to personnel records of FDIC employees.

Ms. Downing pled guilty on November 2, 2000, and has not yet been sentenced. Ms. Williams pled guilty on August 16, 2000, and was sentenced to 36 months of probation, including six months of home detention. Mr. Fleming pled guilty on September 18, 2000, to conspiracy and access device fraud and was sentenced on May 18, 2001, to 37 months of incarceration and ordered to pay restitution of \$87,544. Mr. Mathews pled guilty to access device fraud and was sentenced to four months of incarceration, to be followed by three years of supervised release. He was also ordered to pay \$21,645 in restitution.

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