

Department of Justice

United States Attorney Jim Letten Eastern District of Louisiana

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NEW ORLEANS MAN CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT THEFT IN CONNECTION WITH A PROGRAM RECEIVING FEDERAL FUNDS

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA - EARL MYERS, age 58, a resident of New Orleans, Louisiana, was charged in a one-count bill of information filed today for conspiracy to commit theft in connection with a program receiving federal funds, announced U. S. Attorney Jim Letten.

According to the Bill of Information, **MYERS**, d/b/a Myers & Sons and Excel Development Corporation, New Orleans Affordable Homeownership (NOAH) contractors, engaged in a conspiracy to steal funds provided by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the form of annual Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) exceeding \$10,000 designed to support home remediation work to residences following Hurricane Katrina.

If convicted, **MYERS** faces a maximum term of imprisonment of five (5) years, a \$250,0000 fine, three (3) years of supervised release following any term of imprisonment, and a \$100 special assessment.

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

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, the U. S Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General, and the Internal Revenue Service. The case is being prosecuted by Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division, Fred P. Harper, Jr.

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