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LODI WOMAN CHARGED WITH AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that Amanda Gayle GREENMYER, 19, was charged with felony aggravated identity theft for her fraudulent use of another person's means of identification during the course of her attempt to fraudulently obtain money from Wells Fargo Bank.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service with the assistance of the city of Lodi Police Department.

According to court documents, the federal grand jury located in Sacramento, California returned an indictment charging GREENMYER with three felony offenses. Specifically, GREENMYER is charged with knowingly possessing stolen U.S. mail in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1708, bank fraud and attempted bank fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344(2), and she is charged with aggravated identity theft in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1028A. According to the indictment, on August 30, 2004, in the city of Lodi, GREENMYER possessed stolen U.S. mail, specifically a check forged and made payable in the name of another person, victim Kelly D. In addition, the indictment charges that GREENMYER fraudulently tried to cash the check at a Wells Fargo Bank in Lodi. In doing so, GREENMYER presented herself as victim Kelly D., using the driver's license of Kelly D., in order to execute her scheme to get Wells Fargo Bank money.

In the Eastern District of California, the aggravated identity theft charge is the first invocation of the Identity Theft Penalty Enhancement Act. On July 15, 2004, President Bush signed the Act into law, Pub. L. 108-275. As the President indicated at the signing, the Act dramatically strengthens the fight against identity theft and fraud.

“Identity theft is a particularly pernicious form of white collar crime. Victims of identity theft often must overcome significant obstacles to restore their good names. The United States Attorney’s Office is grateful to have the additional tools enacted into law this summer under the Identity Theft Penalty Enhancement Act,” said United States Attorney Scott.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting this case,

upon conviction GREENMYER will receive a minimum mandatory two year sentence of imprisonment for her aggravated identity theft, which sentence is required to run consecutive to the sentence she receives upon her conviction of possession of stolen U.S. mail and for her conviction for bank fraud. The aggravated identity theft is based on GREENMYER's use of another's identification in furtherance of her bank fraud.

The United States Attorney's Office notes that the indictment on file contains only accusations, and that defendant GREENMYER is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

This press release is available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home>, select Press Releases.

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