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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WILLOWS MAN ARRESTED FOR HACKING INTO TEHAMA COLUSA CANAL AUTHORITY COMPUTER SYSTEM

Defendant Charged with Deleting Computer Files Used to Operate Canals for the Department of Interior

-SACRAMENTO- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that MICHAEL KEEHN, 61, of Willows, California was arrested on charges of computer fraud. The arrest follows his indictment by a federal grand jury on November 15, 2007, alleging that he intentionally accessed and damaged a computer used by the Tehama Colusa Canal Authority ("TCCA"), known as a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system.

This case is the product of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Robin R. Taylor, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that defendant KEEHN, a former employee of TCCA, damaged the computer used by TCCA to operate the Tehama Colusa Canal and the Corning Canal, which are owned by the United States Bureau of Reclamation, an agency of the United States Department of the Interior. The canal system is designed to divert water from the Sacramento River to provide, among other things, irrigation for agriculture in Northern California. It is alleged that TCCA has incurred more than \$5,000 in losses based on the computer intrusion. Mr. KEEHN's next court appearance is scheduled for December 4, 2007, before Senior United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton.

The maximum statutory penalty for computer fraud is 10 years in prison and a 3-year term of

supervised release. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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