



Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

News Release

For Immediate Release: Monday, August 10, 2009

Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Obtaining Convictions for Unemployment Compensation Fraud

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Director Tom Surtees announced today that the Department has successfully prosecuted several Alabamians for unemployment compensation fraud. The following individuals were charged with violating the Alabama Unemployment Compensation Law by making false statements in claims for benefits.

- Frank Glenn Dubridge, of Mobile, was tried in Mobile County District Court on July 30, 2009. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Dubridge received a total of \$3,680.00 in benefits to which he was not entitled.

Dubridge was found guilty and sentenced to one year, which was suspended for 24 months. He was also ordered to pay court costs and restitution in the amount of benefits received illegally.

- David Collins Jr., of Mobile, was tried in Mobile County District Court on August 6, 2009. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Collins received a total of \$1,689.00 in benefits to which he was not entitled.

Collins was found guilty and sentenced to one year, which was suspended for 24 months. He was fined \$50.00. He was also ordered to pay court costs and restitution in the amount of benefits received illegally.

The following individual was charged with Theft of Property in the 3rd degree:

- Melissa Williams, of Huntsville, pled guilty in Madison County Circuit Court on July 30, 2009. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Williams received a total of \$2,800.00 in benefits to which she was not entitled.

Williams was sentenced to one year in jail, which was suspended for 24 months. She was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of benefits received

illegally.

“We at the Department of Industrial Relations want people to know that we are aggressively pursuing cases of unemployment compensation fraud,” said Surtees. “Especially in these economic times, we want to make sure that all who are entitled to benefits receive them. But at the same time, we will not allow those who deliberately try to defraud the system to go unpunished. We are working with local District Attorney Offices to make sure that we can identify and prosecute those individuals who are committing these crimes.”

Suspected unemployment compensation fraud may be reported to the Department of Industrial Relations by calling 1-800-392-8019.

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Members of the media seeking more information should contact Public Information Officer Tara Hutchison at (334) 242-8616.