



Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

News Release

For Immediate Release: November 1, 2011

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.

- Quentin L. Jackson, of Mobile, was tried in Mobile County District Court on October 26, 2011. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Jackson received a total of \$3,360.00 in benefits to which he was not entitled.

Jackson was found guilty and was sentenced to ten years, which was suspended for three years of formal probation. He was also ordered to pay court costs and restitution in the amount of benefits received illegally.

- Marquette Paul, of Birmingham, was tried in Jefferson County District Court on September 20, 2011. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Paul received a total of \$2,906.00 in benefits to which he was not entitled.

Paul pled guilty and was sentenced to serve one year in jail, which was suspended for two years. He was fined \$150.00 and ordered to pay court costs and restitution in the amount of benefits received illegally.

- Donald W. Crow, of Anniston, was tried in Calhoun County District Court on October 4, 2011. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Crow received a total of \$2,090.00 in benefits to which he was not entitled.

Crow pled guilty and was sentenced to one year in jail, which was suspended for two years. He was ordered to pay court costs and restitution in the amount of benefits received illegally by November 15, 2011.

- Serlanda S. Hanna, of Lanett, was tried in Chambers County District Court on September 20, 2011. An investigation by the Industrial Relations Benefit Payment Control Section determined that Hanna received a total of \$1,761.00 in benefits to which she was not entitled.

Hanna pled guilty and was sentenced to 90 days in jail, which was suspended pending full restitution and was also required to pay court costs and 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.