



United States Department of Justice

United States Attorney Joseph P. Russoniello Northern District of California

11th Floor, Federal Building
450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36055
San Francisco, California 94102
(415) 436-7200
FAX: (415) 436-7234

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 9, 2008
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/CAN

CONTACT: Joshua Eaton
(415) 436-6958
Josh.Eaton@usdoj.gov

SAN FRANCISCO – United States Attorney Joseph P. Russoniello announced that Lawrence E. Crayton III of Oakland, California made his initial appearance in federal district court in San Francisco on January 9, 2008 before United States District Judge Maxine M. Chesney. A federal grand jury in San Francisco had previously indicted Mr. Crayton on Theft Concerning Programs Receiving Federal Funds on December 18, 2007. Mr. Crayton is scheduled for his next appearance in federal court in San Francisco on February 13, 2008 before Judge Chesney.

According to the indictment, Mr. Crayton, 58, was a ticket agent and employee of Amtrak, an organization which received federal benefits in excess of \$10,000 for each calendar year from 2002 to 2004. The indictment further alleges that Mr. Crayton embezzled approximately \$180,000 from 2002 to 2004.

The maximum statutory penalty for each count of Theft Concerning Programs Receiving Federal Funds, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 666 is 10 years in prison, and a fine of \$250,000, plus restitution if appropriate. However, any sentence following conviction would be imposed by the court after consideration of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the federal statute governing the imposition of a sentence, 18 U.S.C. § 3553.

Christina Hua is the Assistant U.S. Attorney who is prosecuting the case with the assistance of Ana Guerra and Wilson Wong. The prosecution is the result of a three year investigation by the Amtrak Office of Inspector General.

Further Information:

Case #:CR 07-0803-MMC

A copy of this press release may be found on the U.S. Attorney's Office's website at www.usdoj.gov/usao/can.

Electronic court filings and further procedural and docket information are available at <https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl>.

Judges' calendars with schedules for upcoming court hearings can be viewed on the court's website at www.cand.uscourts.gov.

All press inquiries to the U.S. Attorney's Office should be directed to Joshua Eaton at (415) 436-6958 or by email at Josh.Eaton@usdoj.gov.

###