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SAVANNAH STATE BOOK STORE MANAGER
CHARGED WITH BANK FRAUD

SAVANNAH, GA: Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced that the federal grand jury sitting in Savannah has returned an indictment against the Savannah State University Book Store Manager for fraud in connection with a scheme to embezzle over \$200,000 from the book store.

Charles Jackson, III was charged in a four count indictment with Bank Fraud in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1344 and Making a False Statement to a Federally Insured Financial Institution in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1014. The indictment charges that on October 30, 2003, February 5, 2004, and August 31, 2004, Charles Jackson, III, then employed by Follett Higher Education Group which ran the book store, presented three checks to be deposited into the book store's account at Bank of America. However, rather than depositing all of the funds, Mr. Jackson pocketed \$200,000 to which he was not entitled. These charges carry a maximum penalty of 30 years imprisonment and a fine of \$1,000,000 upon conviction.

The indictment in this case was unsealed in an Order dated October 24, 2006. Mr. Jackson, who is currently free on bond, will be arraigned in U.S. District Court in Savannah, Georgia on Monday, October 30, 2006.

Wood emphasized that an indictment is only an accusation and is not evidence of guilt. The defendant is entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Wood praised the joint efforts of Special Agent Allan Malone of the United States Secret Service and Detective Raymond Woodberry of the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department which led to the indictment.

The government is represented by Assistant United States Attorney Brian F. McEvoy.

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