

The City of New York Department of Investigation ROSE GILL HEARN

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DOI ARRESTS BROOKLYN MAN ON CHARGES OF DEPOSITING A \$9,597 COUNTERFEIT CHECK PURPORTEDLY ISSUED BY THE CITY

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of a Brooklyn man on charges that he deposited a counterfeit check purportedly issued by the City Department of Finance ("DOF") into his bank account. DOI's investigation began after it was notified by DOF that a counterfeit check had been negotiated by the defendant. The case is being prosecuted by the office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Using a fake City check in an effort to steal public money is foolhardy, since the City has safeguards in place to identify and stop phony checks. Individuals who try this kind of charged criminal fraud will face arrest and prosecution."

YENFRY JIMENEZ, 24, of Brooklyn, has been charged with Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree a class D felony, Attempted Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a class E felony, and several related misdemeanors. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison.

According to the criminal complaint, last year at a bank ATM on Liberty Avenue in Brooklyn, JIMENEZ deposited into his account a counterfeit check for \$9,597.17 purportedly issued to him by DOF. DOI's investigation, which included review of the pertinent bank records and video surveillance and DOF records, found that the check was fraudulent and that JIMENEZ did not have the authority to possess or use it.

The City has security features in place to identify and stop payment on counterfeit City checks and, as a result, did not lose any money due to this scheme.

DOI Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DOF Commissioner David Frankel and Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes and their staffs for their assistance with this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of Inspector General for DOF, including Special Investigator Kristin Walunas under the direction of Deputy Inspector General Jeffrey Dolcimascolo, Inspector General Faisal Khan, and Deputy Commissioner Vincent Green.

The office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the case.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. The agency investigates and refers for prosecution City employees and contractors engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities or unethical conduct. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City.

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