



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI ARRESTS UPSTATE WOMAN IN \$3,907 COUNTERFEIT CITY CHECK SCAM
- Broome County, N.Y. woman arrested in City child support scam -

Rose Gill Hearn, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), today announced the felony arrest of Nefertiea Orange, a/k/a Marie E. Johnson, for cashing six counterfeit City checks totaling \$3,907.

Orange, 29, of Johnson City, N.Y. (Broome County), is a Delivery and Labor Technician at Wilson Hospital in Binghamton. She has been charged in Broome County Criminal Court with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony, and seven counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, also a Class D felony. If convicted, she faces up to seven years in prison.

DOI began its investigation after the ACS Office of Child Support Enforcement -- which distributes child support payments -- said a Binghamton bank had submitted a number of counterfeit checks for payment, said Commissioner Gill Hearn. The six checks in question (totaling \$3,907) were made payable to "Marie E. Johnson" and contained one legitimate ACS account number. After reviewing OCSE records, DOI investigators determined the agency neither had received support on behalf of "Marie E. Johnson" nor had distributed support to her.

A tipster led investigators to Orange, who receives support payments from OCSE, said Gill Hearn. Investigators determined that Orange negotiated all six counterfeit checks under the name Marie E. Johnson after she used fraudulent identification to open a savings account. While examining State Department of Motor Vehicle records, DOI investigators found that in November 2001 Orange obtained a fraudulent Non-Driver's Identification Card in the name of Marie E. Johnson. To obtain that identification, Orange presented a forged birth certificate, also in the name of Marie E. Johnson. Orange also obtained other fraudulent identification in the name of Marie E. Johnson, including an employee ID card for a Binghamton company and an "Empire State" College ID card.

DOI Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked the Broome County Prosecutor's Office and the City of Binghamton's Police Bureau for their cooperation in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by Gerard Hoey, DOI's Inspector General for ACS, and members of his staff including Deputy Inspector General Joseph Caputo, and Confidential Investigator Martin Lintner. Additional assistance to the investigation was provided by Binghamton Police Detectives Richard Stoll and Tom Eggleston.

The Broome County District Attorney's Office is prosecuting the case. Assistant District Attorney Stephen Ferri is handling the matter.

***Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To make complaints about someone ripping off the city,
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