



Department of Investigation

Press Release

Release # 059-2002

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2002

WOMAN TRIES TO GET TWO FOR ONE *-- Claims she didn't receive bail refund check --*

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), today announced the felony arrest of STEPHENY NESBITT for allegedly filing a false forgery claim stating she never received a \$3,500 bail refund check.

Nesbitt, 32, of Brooklyn, requested a replacement check in November 2001 in a notarized affidavit filed with the Department of Finance. As a matter of policy, a copy of the forgery claim was forwarded to DOI.

Investigators discovered that Nesbitt deposited the original check in February 2001 in her bank account at a Brooklyn branch of Creative Financial Staffing Bank.

Nesbitt will be charged with offering a false instrument for filing. If convicted, she faces up to seven years in prison.

Commissioner Gill Hearn expressed her sincere appreciation to Department of Finance Commissioner Martha E. Stark, and members of her staff, for their assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by Vincent E. Green, DOI's Assistant Commissioner for DOF, Maureen A. Thomas-Lewis, Deputy Inspector General, Jeffrey Dolcimascolo, Assistant, Inspector General, and Merrybet Tavarez, Confidential Investigator.

The office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case. The arrest will be processed through the Early Case Assessment Bureau.

Criminal complaints are merely an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.