

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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## DOI STATEMENT ON ARRESTS IN CREDIT CARD FRAUD SCHEME CONNECTED TO CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement regarding the federal fraud complaint unsealed today against a College Aide with the City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") and two other individuals charged with unlawfully obtaining and using the credit card information of customers who faxed birth certificate purchase requests to DOHMH. According to the criminal complaint, the defendants attempted to charge \$9,000 on the victims' credit cards.

EVELYNE MIRACLE, 24, and JAZZREA MCRAE, 21, both of Brooklyn, were arrested today. Authorities are looking for a third suspect, NATHANIEL ROBINSON, 25, of Brooklyn. Each is charged with one count of Fraud and Related Activity in Connection with Access Devices.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This trio is charged with exploiting an insider's access to obtain private credit card information, which they attempted to use for their own gain. But following a tip from the City Health Department, DOI and federal prosecutors quickly shut down this scam and brought criminal charges against those responsible. Through its investigation, DOI learned how the scheme worked and has recommended measures to improve security at the Health Department's Bureau of Vital Records."

MIRACLE has been a College Aide with DOHMH since May 2008 and received an hourly wage of \$9.75. In 2008, she received wages of approximately \$3,336, and, in 2009, she received wages of approximately \$2,447.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Lev L. Dassin, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and Dr. Thomas R. Frieden, and their staffs, for their assistance on this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOHMH.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent until prove 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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