



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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Release #69-2008
nyc.gov/html/doi

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2008

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**BRONX MAN ARRAIGNED ON CHARGES OF STEALING APPROXIMATELY \$1,420
FROM MORE THAN 26 CITY PARKING METERS**
-- DOI arrested this individual in June 2008 on similar charges--

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the culmination of a multi-agency investigation that has resulted in the indictment by the office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson of ARTHUR HENDERSON on charges of using homemade keys to break into New York City Department of Transportation ("DOT") free-standing parking meters to take approximately \$1,420 in coins.

HENDERSON, 38, of the Bronx, was arraigned today in Bronx Supreme Court and held on \$30,000 bail. He is charged with Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree and Criminal Mischief in the Third Degree, class E felonies. He has also been charged with Possession of Burglar's Tools and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the Fifth Degree, class A misdemeanors. Conviction of a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison and conviction of a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to one year incarceration.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "No theft of City revenue is small change. As this indictment shows, DOI will work with its City and law enforcement partners to protect City funds and ensure that individuals who pilfer them will be held accountable."

According to the criminal complaint and the indictment, between April 2007 and December 2007, in the Parkchester area of the Bronx, HENDERSON used hand-made keys to open parking meters and remove the containers that collect the coins. HENDERSON stole more than \$1,400 from more than 26 containers. The replacement value is estimated at more than \$260.

HENDERSON was already incarcerated because he was unable to post bond from a June 16, 2008 arrest by DOI on charges of Possession of Burglar's Tools, Petit Larceny, Criminal Mischief in the Fourth Degree and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the Fifth Degree, all class A misdemeanors. According to the criminal complaint, on June 3, 2008, at Crosby Avenue between Daniel Street and Middletown Road in the Bronx, HENDERSON was seen using a homemade key to break into a parking meter and remove the collection can, which contained \$20 in coins. The meter was under surveillance by DOT investigators.

Both of these investigations were conducted by DOI, DOT's Bureau of Parking, Internal Security and Special Investigations Unit ("ISU"), the Bronx District Attorney's Office and the New York Police Department's Technical Assistance Response Unit ("TARU").

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked DOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan and her staff, especially the ISU, for their assistance on this investigation. Commissioner Gill Hearn also thanked Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly and his department's TARU Unit, and Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson for their assistance on this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for DOT Mary T. Piechocki, and members of her staff, including First Deputy Inspector General John M. Bellanie, Special Investigators Omar Sarach and Kenneth McGrail, and Investigator Alison Bonfoey.

Members of DOT-ISU also participated, including Administrative Investigator John Regan and Investigator Corey Gibbons.

The office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is prosecuting the case, which has been assigned to Assistant District Attorney James Cudden of the Rackets Bureau.

Indictments are merely an accusation. Defendants are 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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To report someone ripping off the city, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.**