

## United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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## NEW YORK CITY EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH \$95,000 SECTION 8 HOUSING FRAUD

MICHAEL J. GARCIA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and ROSE GILL HEARN, the Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the unsealing of charges against JACQUELINE MONTGOMERY, a City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") employee, for falsifying her income between 1993 and 2006 in order to qualify for inflated Section 8 housing subsidies administered by the New York City Housing Development Corporation ("HDC"). According to the Complaint filed in Manhattan federal court:

Section 8 is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") and administered by the New York City Housing Development Corporation ("NYCHDC"). Under the Program, low-income individuals who meet certain eligibility requirements obtain rental assistance payments to make up the difference between what the tenant can afford and the rent charged by the Section 8 landlord. Persons accepted in the Program must certify annually his or her income, assets, household composition, and income of household members. Once a tenant is accepted, NYCDHC sends the assistance payments directly to the Section 8 landlord.

MONTGOMERY resided in a Section 8 subsidized apartment in the Bronx and reported that between 1993 and 2006 she worked at a glass company, earning between \$5,200 and \$13,000 annually. In fact, however, MONTGOMERY had been employed by DOHMH since 1993 and her annual income was considerably more than she had reported. MONTGOMERY's starting annual salary in 1993 was

approximately \$26,750 and by 2006 she was earning approximately \$46,580 annually. Based on MONTGOMERY's income misrepresentations, she collected approximately \$95,800 in Section 8 subsidies to which she was not entitled.

MONTGOMERY, 43, of the Bronx, has been charged with one count of theft of government funds. If convicted, she faces up to ten years in prison.

Mr. GARCIA praised the investigative work of the New York City Department of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney AMY LESTER is in charge of the prosecution.

The charge and allegations contained in the Complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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