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New York City Resident Sentenced for Possession of Counterfeit Credit Card



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JANAY SPENCER, 23, of New York City, was sentenced to 9 months in the Albany County Correctional Facility before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court this morning.

On February 6, 2013, SPENCER pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony.

On September 11, 2012, SPENCER, along with Co-Defendants PATRICK ROONEY, 22, REGINAL FRANCOIS, 22, and MALCOLM BUTLER, 23, all from New York City, traveled in a vehicle allegedly driven by FRANCOIS from New York City to Albany with the intent of purchasing merchandise using counterfeit credit cards.

As the Defendants exited Interstate 90 in the Town of Guilderland, a New York State Trooper pulled the vehicle over for a traffic violation on the exit ramp leading towards Crossgates Mall.

Upon approaching the vehicle, the Trooper discovered that FRANCOIS allegedly was not licensed to operate a motor vehicle in New York State. A search of the vehicle revealed SPENCER to be in possession of numerous counterfeit credit cards as well as fake ID's.

On February 6, 2013, PATRICK ROONEY pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony, before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court. ROONEY faces 1 to 3 years in State Prison when sentenced on April 18, 2013.

On February 11, 2013, MALCOLM BUTLER pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony, before the Honorable Stephen Herrick in Albany County Court. On April 1, 2013, BUTLER was sentenced to 1 to 3 years in State Prison.

The case against REGINAL FRANCOIS is still pending.

“The facts of this case show the lengths that some will go in order to defraud our local economy. As my office has seen over the past several years, there has been a noticeable increase in the instances of individuals traveling to Albany County and taking advantage of our robust local economy, but more importantly, taking advantage of hardworking local business owners and depriving them of their rightfully monetary compensation. I applaud the work of the New York State Police and ADA Clark for sending a message to all those who are considering coming to Albany County to use counterfeit currency to think twice,” commented DA Soares.

Assistant District Attorney Benjamin Clark of the Financial Crimes Bureau is handling the prosecution of these cases.

For more information please contact Cecilia Logue.

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All Individuals Are Considered Innocent Until Proven Guilty