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Ringleader in Counterfeit Credit Card Scheme Found Guilty of All Counts After a Jury Trial



ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JAMAL LINTON, 28, of Brooklyn, was found guilty after a jury trial of (7) Counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, all Class D Felonies, and (1) Count of Conspiracy in the Fifth Degree, a Misdemeanor, before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court this morning.

The jury found that on October 17, 2015, at approximately 4:24 P.M., LINTON conspired with three Co-Defendants to use counterfeit credit cards to purchase approximately \$10,000 worth of gift cards and merchandise from Lord and Taylor on Crossgates Mall Road in the Town of Guilderland. The same group was already being investigated regarding two similar incidents that occurred at the same Lord and Taylor in October, involving the use of counterfeit credit cards to purchase over \$20,000 in gift cards in merchandise. On each occasion LINTON supplied the credit cards and waited in the vehicle as the Co-Defendants executed the scheme. The Co-Defendants were observed by a security camera in the store purchasing the gift cards and merchandise. The Guilderland Police Department was notified and responded to the scene, initiating a traffic stop as the vehicle was leaving the Lord and Taylor parking lot. Upon further inspection, the counterfeit credit cards and gift cards were ultimately recovered in a secret compartment inside the passenger seat of the vehicle.

Linton faces 2 1/3 to 7 years in State Prison when sentenced on June 30, 2017.

All three co-defendants, SEQUOIA HILL, 30, AJANI MCCHRISTON, 23, and FRANCIS EVELYN, 22, previously pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony.

Assistant District Attorney Shadi Masri of the Financial Crimes Unit prosecuted this case.

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