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## **Ringleader of Albany Check Fraud Scheme Sentenced to State Prison**



**ALBANY, NY** - District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that JAHQUEL ROBERTSON, 22, of Albany, was sentenced to 3 2/3 to 11 years in State Prison, before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court this morning.

On November 22, 2017, ROBERTSON pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a

Forgery Device, a Class D Felony, and (1) Count of Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, a Class E Felony.

Between March and October of 2017, ROBERTSON orchestrated a check fraud scheme that plagued numerous banks and Price Chopper branches throughout Albany County, commencing investigations by several law enforcement agencies including the US Postal Inspectors, New York State Police, Colonie PD, Albany PD, Guilderland PD, Bethlehem PD, Cohoes PD, and Watervliet PD.

Specifically, on September 29, 2017, during the execution of a search warrant at ROBERTSON'S residence, a laptop was recovered containing many of the forged checks produced and used over the past year. The loss sustained by the victim banks and Price Chopper branches is estimated to be approximately \$41,000.00.

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

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh at [cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov](mailto:cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov).

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