

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2005

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## STATEMENT FROM DOI ABOUT ARREST OF MAINTENANCE WORKER WHO STOLE IDENTITY INFORMATION OF MORE THAN 500 CITY WELFARE RECIPIENTS

"A maintenance worker, this defendant misused his access to City offices in order to steal confidential City welfare documents so he could sell them for others to engage in tax fraud and identity theft. He engaged in a cynical scheme at the expense of a vulnerable sector of the population," said Department of Investigation Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn.

## Background information:

Jamil Green, 46, of Bronx, was arrested today and charged with stealing the Social Security numbers and other personal identifying information of at least 589 New York City welfare recipients, and selling that information to be used to file fraudulent tax returns seeking tax refunds from the Internal Revenue Service. Green is a maintenance worker employed by a company that has a contract to manage the Melrose Job Center in the Bronx. According to the Complaint, on at least four occasions in 2004 and 2005, Green stole computer printouts featuring the names, Social Security numbers, and other personal identifying information of welfare recipients from the welfare office where he worked and then sold the information to individuals who used it to file fraudulent tax returns while seeking tax refunds. In many instances, those false tax returns yielded the maximum allowable Earned Income Tax Credit, which resulted in a refund of approximately \$2,500 per return. The tax returns were filed without the knowledge or authorization of the individuals whose personal information was stolen.

This case will be prosecuted by the Office of United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York David N. Kelley and will be handled by Assistant United States Attorney Elie Honig. The investigation was conducted by the New York Division of the United States Postal Inspection Service, the New York Field Office of the IRS, and DOI.

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.

Get the worms out of the Big Apple.

To report someone ripping off the city, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.