



The City of New York
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Release #21-2012
nyc.gov/html/doi

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 2012**

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DOI INVESTIGATION SHUTS DOWN FORGERY OPERATION INVOLVING GOVERNMENT-ISSUED DOCUMENTS
--Forgeries include fake City FDNY Certificates of Fitness, state drivers' licenses, and New York State benefit card--

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of GUY WOODARD, 60, who was charged late Thursday (August 9, 2012) after a search of his apartment in Upper Manhattan and a rented storage unit in the Bronx, which uncovered more than three dozen phony government- and university-issued identification cards and documents, including:

- four forged Certificates of Fitness purportedly issued by the City Fire Department ("FDNY"),
- 19 forged state drivers licenses purportedly issued by the states of Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Georgia, Connecticut, Ohio, and New Jersey;
- a forged New York State benefit card;
- three forged student identification cards purportedly issued by Mount Sinai Medical Center and Penn State; and
- three forged checks payable to the defendant, each in the amount of \$2,500.

The search also uncovered a variety of equipment known by law enforcement to be used in the manufacturing and sale of counterfeiting operations, including blank ID cards, invisible ink, which is often used to create images that react to a black light, stamps in the shape of the official state logos of Pennsylvania and Georgia, blank paper stock for checks, and an ID card printer.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This extensive investigation stopped a flow of forged government documents from getting into circulation and arrested the source, according to the criminal complaint. There is no tolerance for individuals who create a shadow market in this City for bogus government-issued documents and undermine the public's safety. DOI worked with its law enforcement and City partners to uncover and stem this insidious charged crime."

During DOI's investigation into the manufacturing of phony government-issued documents investigators linked some of the phony documents WOODARD created to three individuals DOI arrested earlier this year on charges of possessing forged FDNY Certificates of Fitness. DOI determined these forged Certificates of Fitness were created by WOODARD and displayed in a City building. Certificates of Fitness are required for certain hazardous work at businesses within the City, such as the operation of certain mechanical equipment, and the FDNY provides testing to applicants and issues a range of these certifications for various occupations.

DOI's investigation also uncovered that WOODARD created and sold two forged FDNY Certificates of Fitness and one New Jersey Driver's license for a total of \$900 in late July and early August 2012. The investigation found that WOODARD created high-end counterfeit identification cards that bore security features such as micro printing, invisible ink, and holograms, according to the criminal complaint.

DOI initiated this investigation in December 2011 after the New York County District Attorney's Office reported to DOI that it learned an individual at a location in the Bronx was in possession of forged Certificates of Fitness supposedly issued by the FDNY. The office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is prosecuting the case. The investigation is ongoing.

WOODARD, of Upper Manhattan, N.Y., was charged with six counts each of Forgery in the First Degree and Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the First Degree, class C felonies; 37 counts of Criminal Possession

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of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, 37 counts of Forgery in the Second Degree, and 28 counts of Criminal Possession of Forgery Devices, class D felonies; and related misdemeanors. Upon conviction, a class C felony is punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a class D felony by up to seven years in prison.

WOODARD was arraigned today in Bronx County Criminal Court and bail was set at \$50,000 cash or \$100,000 bond. He is scheduled to be in court again on August 14, 2012.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, FDNY Commissioner Salvatore J. Cassano, New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., and their staffs, for their cooperation and assistance in this investigation.

Assistant District Attorney Leslie Sturm from the Bronx County District Attorney's Office is prosecuting these cases under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Thomas Leahy, Chief of the Investigations Division, and Assistant District Attorney Thomas Kapp, Chief of the Arson and Economic Crimes Bureau.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for FDNY.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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.

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