



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS BRONX MOTORIST ON CHARGES OF FILING PHONY POLICE REPORTS
WITH CITY FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO DISMISS PARKING TICKETS**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest of JORGE MEJIA, on charges of submitting falsified documents, specifically, forged complaint reports purportedly issued by the New York City Police Department ("NYPD") and forged GEICO insurance documents, to trick the City's Department of Finance ("DOF") into dismissing parking tickets totaling more than \$1,300. The office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is prosecuting the case.

MEJIA, 24, of the Bronx, was charged Thursday, July 16, 2009, with five counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a class D felony; and Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the Fourth Degree, and five counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, which are class E felonies. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison and a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "There are perfectly legal ways to contest parking tickets, but submitting phony police and insurance reports to a City agency is not one of them. That is criminal conduct and a surefire way to turn a workaday issue of a parking fine into a more serious problem for anyone foolish enough to pursue that path."

DOI investigated the matter after DOF reported that MEJIA, identifying himself as a driver, had repeatedly appeared at DOF's Bronx Business Center to contest parking tickets issued to other individuals' vehicles using similar claims and documents.

According to the criminal complaint, DOI's investigation revealed that on three occasions between December 2007 and April 2008 MEJIA submitted forged NYPD complaint forms as supposed proof that the vehicles had been stolen before the tickets were issued, which, if true, would have meant that the vehicles' owners were not responsible for the parking violations and fines. In two of those instances, the complaint charges, he also submitted forged GEICO insurance claim documents. DOI's investigation included reviews of the pertinent GEICO and NYPD records with the assistance of GEICO investigators and NYPD staff and found the records were forged. As a result, DOF was deprived of ticket payments in excess of \$1,300.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson and DOF's Acting Commissioner Michael Hyman and their staffs, and GEICO for their assistance.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOF, including Confidential Investigator Theresa Siame, Deputy Inspector General Jeffrey Dolcimascolo and Inspector General Faisal

Khan under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Vincent E. Green, with the assistance of DOI's Squad of NYPD Detectives.

Assistant District Attorney Sharif Nesheiwat of the Bronx County District Attorney's Office is prosecuting the case.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is 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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