



NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Industry Notice #00-24

July/August 2000

MANHATTAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SEEKS VICTIMS AND INFORMATION IN LIVERY DRIVER FRAUD CASE

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) is disseminating the following information in the hopes that it may assist in the investigation of a Grand Larceny felony case that recently victimized several livery drivers.

The female defendant in the case was originally convicted of defrauding a livery driver by impersonating, in January, 2000, an agent of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and promising to facilitate paperwork for the victim, his family and a family friend. The victims in this case gave the defendant several thousand dollars in exchange for her promise to assist them. After several months, when the defendant had not fulfilled her promise, the victim reported the fraud and larceny to the Police Department and she was subsequently arrested and successfully prosecuted.

On June 21, 2000, the defendant was again arrested for impersonating an INS agent and defrauding a different livery driver with essentially the same promise. Based upon physical evidence recovered from the defendant's apartment, it is highly possible that there may be many other victims of this scheme who have not yet come forward or do not yet realize that they were being defrauded.

Based on the similarities between these two cases, it is possible that the defendant may have been targeting livery, or perhaps other types of TLC-licensed drivers, therefore it is important that anyone with information on this case please contact Assistant District Attorney Judith Weinstock at 212-335-4053.