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Identity Theft Investigation Nets Four Defendants
Including Two NJMVC Employees

TRENTON -- Mercer County Prosecutor Joseph L. Bocchini, Jr. announced that a seven-month identity theft investigation concluded this week with four defendants facing charges.

According to Bocchini, the charges stem from a seven-month investigation conducted by the Mercer County Prosecutor's Economic Crime Unit (ECU). In April 2011, the prosecutor's ECU received information regarding allegations of identity theft involving a state government employee. Further investigation uncovered that two employees of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission were providing the names, addresses, dates of birth and social security numbers of unsuspecting residents that they obtained through their employment. They were charging as little as \$200 per identity.

MVC employees **Sherilyn Rivera** (DOB 12/16/82), of Reeves Avenue, Hamilton, **Johnny Semmon** (DOB 2/22/80), of Centre Street, Trenton, were both arrested and charged last week with official misconduct, bribery and identity theft. Rivera worked at the MVC facility on Stockton Street and Semmon worked at the MVC facility on East State Street. Each faces a potential sentence of up to 10 years in state prison with a five-year period of parole ineligibility.

Two additional men were charged in connection with the scheme. **Lee Daniel Roberts** (DOB 10/26/74), of Eaton Road, Bordentown, and **Abdulah Sumo** (DOB 4/3/56), of Hinsdale Lane, Willingboro, are each charged with identity theft and trafficking in personal identifying information pertaining to another person. Each faces a potential sentence of up to 10 years in state prison with a five-year period of parole ineligibility.

Both men were selling the names, addresses, dates of birth, social security numbers and credit history reports of victims obtained through their respective jobs. Roberts is a tax preparer working out of an office on Heil Avenue in Trenton, and Sumo is employed by Imani Realty Company in Willingboro.

At the time of Sumo's arrest, in June 2011, a search of his vehicle revealed documentation containing the personal identifying information of more than 60 individuals.

Roberts remains in the Mercer County Correction Center in lieu of \$50,000 bail. Both Rivera and Semmon are free on \$50,000 bail. Sumo is free on \$100,000 bail.

The investigation is ongoing. Bocchini credited Detectives Michele Russell, Denise Gorlin and Michael Ferraro of his Economic Crime Unit with the investigation leading to the charges. He also thanked New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Security and Investigations Unit, and the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice for their assistance.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecutor James Scott, chief of the prosecutor's ECU.

Despite having been charged, all persons are presumed innocent until found guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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