



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
P. DAVID SOARES
6 LODGE STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
(518) 487-5460
(518) 487-5093 FAX

CONTACT: ALBANYDA@ALBANYCOUNTYNY.GOV
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Guilty Plea in Identity Theft Case



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that **MICHAEL HARRISON**, 27, of Albany, pleaded guilty to (2) Counts of Identity Theft in the First Degree, a Class D Felony, before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court this morning.

Between August 28, 2015 and September 14, 2015, **HARRISON** was the orchestrator of an Identity Theft Scheme that defrauded multiple retail stores throughout the Capital District, using cloned credit cards containing the personal identifying information of multiple members of the Albany Police Department, the Bethlehem Police Department, and the Police and Fire Federal

Credit Union of Philadelphia.

Specifically, on August 28, 2015, HARRISON did use cloned cards to make fraudulent purchases at the Price Chopper in Colonie and Watervliet, and the Jimmy Jazz in Guilderland, stealing money, gift cards, and merchandise in excess of \$1,000. On September 14, 2015, HARRISON used different cloned cards to make fraudulent purchases at Macy's in Colonie, stealing merchandise in excess of \$1,000.

On November 10, 2017, HARRISON was apprehended by the Albany Police Department and found in possession of approximately \$9,000 in cash, multiple forged driver's licenses, a forged social security card, gift cards, and laptops.

HARRISON faces 2 1/2 to 5 years on each count, for a total of 5 to 10 years in State Prison when sentenced on January 8, 2018.

Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney Cheryl Fowler and Assistant District Attorney Shadi Masri of the Financial Crimes Unit prosecuted this case.

For more information please contact the Albany County District Attorney's Office at AlbanyDA@albanycountyny.gov .

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