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Swindler Pleads Guilty For the Second Time This Year



ALBANY, NY- District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that KASON PHILLIPS, 32, previously of Albany, was sentenced to 2 to 4 Years in State Prison before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court yesterday morning.

On May 6, 2014, PHILLIPS pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Identity Theft in the First Degree, a Class D Felony.

Between the dates of September 24, 2013 and December 1, 2013 PHILLIPS stole the identity of a victim and opened six separate credit cards at local stores in the victim's name and purchased over \$10,000 in merchandise at the various stores. PHILLIPS was observed on video surveillance at two of the locations using the credit cards that were acquired.

Previously this year in a separate case, on February 28, 2014, PHILLIPS was sentenced to 3 to 6 years in State Prison after pleading guilty to (1) Count of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony. On October 11, 2012 at Berkshire Bank in the City of Albany, the defendant possessed two counterfeit checks totaling \$1,029.80 that were forged. The defendant cashed both checks at the bank and took the money that he was not entitled to receive. PHILLIPS paid \$1,029.80 in restitution in that case.

PHILLIP's 2 to 4 year sentence for the current charge will be served consecutive to the 3 to 6 years he was sentenced to in February.

Assistant District Attorney Jessica Blain-Lewis of the Financial Crimes Unit handled the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.

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