

Department of Justice

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BUFFALO WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO BANK FRAUD

BUFFALO, N.Y.—U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Brianna N. Greene, 24, of Buffalo, N.Y., pleaded guilty to bank fraud before U.S. District Judge Richard J. Arcara. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison, a \$1,000,000 fine, or both. Under the terms of the plea agreement, the defendant will also be ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$37,194.57 to the victims of the offense.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron J. Mango, who is handling the case, stated that from September 2005 to October 14, 2005, Greene and Jason Hall devised and executed a scheme to obtain a student loan in the amount of \$23,331 by fraudulently listing Victim 1 as a cosigner of the loan. In order to further their scheme, the defendants utilized Victim 1's social security number, which they had learned while leasing a home from the victim, and also Victim 1's date of birth, which they had tricked the Victim into providing. The defendants also submitted fraudulent and forged letters from Erie Community College and Victim 1's employer. In addition, in January and February of 2006, the defendants fraudulently obtained two more private student loans in the amount of \$36,669 by listing Victim 1 as a cosigner and providing false supporting documentation.

Jason Hall was also convicted of bank fraud and is scheduled to be sentenced on February 10, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. before Judge Arcara.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Agents of the U.S. Secret Service under the direction of Tracy Gast, Special Agent-In-Charge, and the Buffalo Police Department under the direction of Commissioner Daniel Derenda.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 7, 2012, at 12:30 p.m., before Judge Arcara.