

Department of Justice

United States Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr.
Western District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 29, 2012
www.usdoj.gov/usao/nyw

CONTACT: BARBARA BURNS
PHONE: (716) 843-5817
FAX: (716) 551-3051

NIGERIAN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO USE OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED U.S. PASSPORT

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Lovely Adah, 43, of Nigeria, pleaded guilty to using a passport obtained by fraud before Chief U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny. The charge carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul J. Campana, who is handling the case, stated that the defendant attempted to enter Canada on July 22, 2012, at the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge but was turned back. On the U.S. side of the bridge, Adah presented the same U.S. passport that he had presented on the Canadian side. After U.S. immigration officers took his fingerprints, they discovered that they were a match for the defendant, not the person whose name was on the passport. Adah thereafter admitted to agents of the United States Department of State that he had obtained the U.S. passport in 2011 by using the identity of another person. The defendant told agents he paid \$4,000 for the use of the false identity. Adah's inability to enter Canada resulted from a criminal record associated with the false identity Adah was using.

The plea is the result of an investigation by Special Agents of the United States Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service, under the Direction of Special Agent In-Charge Roy B. Stillman.

Sentencing is scheduled for December 7, 2012, at 9:00 before Judge Skretny. The defendant has been in custody since his arrest on July 22, 2012.