

Department of Justice

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MAN SENTENCED FOR MISUSE OF A PASSPORT

BUFFALO, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Nosh Gjura, 29 of Albania, who was convicted of misuse of a passport, was sentenced to six months in prison and two years of supervised release by U.S. District Court Judge Richard J. Arcara.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron J. Mango, who handled the case, stated that the defendant attempted to enter the United States at the Rainbow Bridge port of entry in Niagara Falls, New York on January 25, 2011. When identification was requested by U.S. Custom and Border Protection officers, Gjura presented an Italian passport in the name of Emanuele Pancotti, which contained a photograph of the defendant.

Subsequent investigation determined that the defendant's fingerprints and photograph did not match those of another individual who previously used the same Italian passport. Investigators also discovered that Gjura had been previously denied two United States non-immigrant visa applications in Florence, Italy in 2007 and 2008.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation on the part of the U.S. Custom and Border Protection, under the direction of James T. Engleman, Member in Charge.

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