

Department of Justice

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

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

CALIFORNIA WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY **TO BANK FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT**

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul, Jr. announced today that Cassandra Montrevel, 24, of Sacramento, CA, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bank fraud and aggravated identity theft before United States District Judge David G. Larimer. Bank fraud carries a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison and a fine of \$1,000,000. Aggravated identity theft carries a maximum penalty of two years to be served consecutively to the punishment imposed for bank fraud.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Tiffany H. Lee, who is handling the case, stated that the defendant conspired with others to execute a scheme to defraud Bank of America by flying to different branches across the country, posing as actual bank account holders, and attempting to make cash withdrawals. Montrevel flew into the Western District of New York in March 2011. On March 18, 2011, the defendant went to Bank of America branches in Irondequoit, Gates and Batavia and attempted to withdraw money from the account of a Texas resident by presenting a fake Texas driver's license using the name of the actual account holder. Montrevel also presented the correct social security number of the true account holder. She admitted to having executed the scheme in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Illinois and New York as well.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the United States Secret Service under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Tracy Gast, the Monroe County Sheriff's Office under the direction of Sheriff Patrick O'Flynn, the Gates Police Department under the direction of Chief David DiCaro, the Irondequoit Police Department under the direction of Chief Richard Boyan, and the Batavia Police Department under the direction of Chief Randy Baker.

Sentencing is scheduled for January 25, 2012 at 2pm before Judge Larimer.