



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

JOCELYN E. STRAUBER
COMMISSIONER

180 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

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**CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
CLODAGH MCGOWAN
(212) 825-5931**

FORMER ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST WITH THE CITY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION CHARGED WITH STEALING PERSONAL INFORMATION FROM A CLIENT TO ILLEGALLY OBTAIN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Jocelyn E. Strauber, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced that a former New York City Human Resources Administration ("HRA") Eligibility Specialist has been charged with taking the personal identifying information of a client to apply for and fraudulently receive more than \$27,000 in unemployment benefits between June and November 2020. DOI began its investigation after HRA reported allegations to DOI, based in part on social media posts, that the defendant was engaged in unemployment benefit fraud. The office of Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg is prosecuting the case.

ANALDA ROBERTSON, 38, of New York, N.Y. has been charged with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree and Identity Theft in the First Degree, both class D felonies. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison. ROBERTSON was arrested on April 23, 2025 and provided a Desk Appearance Ticket to be arraigned today. She was released on her own recognizance and her next court date is scheduled on June 16, 2025.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, "HRA Eligibility Specialists have an obligation to protect the personal information of the New Yorkers they serve. Instead, this defendant, as charged, exploited both her position and the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic to steal the personal identifying information of applicants and to use that information to apply for unemployment benefits. I thank the Manhattan District Attorney's Office for their commitment to protecting public funds, and I thank HRA for reporting the allegations that prompted this investigation to DOI."

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin L. Bragg Jr. said, "City workers are expected to do their jobs with integrity. Instead, while working for the NYC Department of Social Services, Analda Robertson accessed a client's personal identifying information and used it to apply for unauthorized unemployment benefits. Instead of helping the client navigate much-needed services, she used the \$27,773 in misbegotten funds for personal expenses. I thank the Department of Investigation for its steadfast collaboration in rooting out fraud and corruption."

According to the criminal complaint, between June and November 2020, ROBERTSON used her position as an HRA Eligibility Specialist to steal personal identifying information from another individual to apply for and receive over \$3,000 in fraudulent New York State unemployment benefits. The individual did not give the defendant permission or authority to use their personal identifying information. The stolen unemployment benefits were paid out via a debit card that was delivered to ROBERTSON's home address. A review of bank records determined that many of the purchases on that debit card were linked to the

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defendant, including auto repairs for a vehicle owned by the defendant and food delivered to “Analda Robertson” and to an address where the defendant was observed.

ROBERTSON began working at HRA in February 2014 and at the time of her resignation in March 2022, was receiving an annual salary of approximately \$44,710.

Commissioner Strauber thanked Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, and his staff, for their partnership on the investigation and prosecution of the case. Assistant District Attorney Marques Brooks is handling the prosecution. Commissioner Strauber also thanked HRA Commissioner Molly Wasow Park for her and her staff’s cooperation in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by Special Investigator Daniel Malvey with DOI’s Office of the Inspector General for HRA and was supervised by Assistant Inspector General Alexandra Davie, Deputy Inspector General Jeremy Reyes, Inspector General John M. Bellanie, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives Christopher Ryan, and Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and New York City’s corruption watchdog. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City. DOI’s strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to high -impact arrests, preventive internal controls and operational reforms that improve the way the City runs.

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