

## **State of New Jersey**

Department of the Treasury

For Immediate Release:

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## Jersey City Man Charged with Counterfeiting Cigarette Tax Stamps and Vehicle Inspection Stickers

TRENTON – Special Agents of the Office of Criminal Investigation in the State's Treasury Department arrested Gregorio A. Cordero, 49, in Jersey City on Wednesday and charged him with counterfeiting New Jersey cigarette tax stamps and vehicle inspection stickers.

The agents acted on information that Cordero was engaged in counterfeiting activities at his home at 44 Bryant Street. During their investigation, they seized two printers, a laptop computer, \$4,910 in cash, materials to duplicate tax stamps and numerous counterfeit New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission inspection stickers. Agents from the Motor Vehicle Commission assisted in the investigation.

"Gone are the days when criminal activity confines itself to one area and against only one department," said Raymond P. Martinez, Chairman and Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission. "This particular investigation and subsequent arrest is testament to the need for our continued unified vigilance against those who seek to commit fraud against the state."

Cordero was charged with possession and distribution of counterfeit New Jersey cigarette tax stamps, as well as forgery of suspected counterfeit vehicle inspection stickers, all third degree crimes.

Judge Margaret Marley of the Jersey City Municipal Court set Cordero's initial bail at \$15,000 Thursday. He is currently being held in the Hudson County Correctional Facility.