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**46-2024**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**June 11, 2024**

**NYC DOC OFFICER SENTENCED FOR SELLING PHONY DISABILITY PARKING  
PLACARDS; MUST PAY \$5,000 FINE**  
**Defendant Was Convicted By Jury**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a former New York City Department of Correction Officer has been sentenced to a Conditional Discharge for using and selling forged New York City disability parking placards.

District Attorney Clark said, “The defendant is a public servant who flouted the law. Members of our community with severe disabilities need these placards to go about their lives. The defendant appropriated them for her own selfish purposes and has been held accountable.”

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, “This defendant – now a former City correction officer was convicted of using and selling forged disability placards. Disability placards are intended to allow individuals who qualify for them to park in convenient spaces. By using fraudulent placards and selling them for profit, Gales not only broke the law, she failed to meet the high standards of personal integrity and honesty that we expect of City employees. Today she faces the consequences of her misconduct. I thank the Bronx District Attorney’s Office for its partnership in protecting the integrity of the parking placards program.”

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, former NYC DOC Officer Nakia Gales, 44, of Manhattan was sentenced by Bronx Supreme Court Justice Timothy Lewis to a three year Conditional Discharge and a \$5,000 fine. The defendant was found guilty of five counts of second-degree Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument on April 25, 2024, after a jury trial.

The People had requested a sentence of one year in jail.

According to the investigation, Gales possessed five forged disability parking placards, three of which she sold to a fellow Correction Officer, and two of which she utilized in her personal vehicles while parked in front of the Bronx County Hall of Justice while at work. She took payments ranging from \$200 to \$280 per placard.



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The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Cassie Perez and Michael Naughton of the Public Integrity Bureau under the supervision of Sarah Clements, Supervisor in the Public Integrity Bureau, Allison Riesel, Deputy Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau and Omer Wiczuk, Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau, and under the overall supervision of Denise Kodjo, Deputy Chief of the Investigations Division and Wanda Perez-Maldonado, Chief of the Investigations Division.

District Attorney Clark thanked Trial Preparation Assistant Onaeida Nkrumah for her work on the case.