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**FORMER DOE RETIREMENT SYSTEM EMPLOYEE ARRESTED
FOR SKIMMING MEMBERS' CHECKS WORTH OVER \$17,000**

Today, Special Commissioner of Investigation Anastasia Coleman announced the arrest of Jalise Hackle, a former temporary Board of Education Retirement System (“BERS”) employee, who stole and negotiated BERS members’ loan reimbursement checks and money orders totaling more than \$17,000.

The arrest was the result of an investigation conducted by the office of the Special Commissioner of Investigation for the New York City School District (“SCI”), which found that Hackle stole 58 checks and money orders from BERS members and deposited them in her personal account between June and November of 2016. The checks – intended as loan repayments – ranged in amounts from \$24.14 to \$7,441.81, and totaled \$17,402.06. There were 33 victims, 17 of whom had more than one check or money order stolen by Hackle.

“Ms. Hackle’s ‘one check for you, one check for me’ scheme defrauded hard-working retirement fund members trying to repay their outstanding loans. Criminal acts like Ms. Hackle’s can never be tolerated in our school retirement systems,” said Commissioner Coleman.

“This defendant took advantage of her position as a trusted employee to allegedly steal funds from members. We will now seek to hold her accountable,” added Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez.

Hackle is charged with one count of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, two counts of Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, one count of Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, and one count of Petit Larceny. Hackle’s employment with BERS was terminated in November of 2016.

Special Commissioner Coleman thanks her investigative staff at SCI and Kings County District Attorney Eric Gonzalez and his staff, particularly those in the Public Integrity Bureau, for their assistance with this matter.