



FOUR INDIVIDUALS SENTENCED IN PANDEMIC RELIEF FRAUD SCHEME

Activity Date: June 24, 2026

Date Posted: September 23, 2026

Case Number: 24-0103-I

Web Summary: OIG-WS-2026-349

Three New York residents and one Georgia resident were sentenced in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Kings County, for participating in a pandemic relief fraud scheme.

Monique Horton of East Rockaway, New York, was sentenced on June 22, 2026, to four weeks of community service and ordered to pay \$32,089 in restitution. Karima Branche of Decatur, Georgia, was sentenced on June 23, 2026, to three years of probation, two weeks of community service, and \$51,666 in restitution. Carol Horton of Brooklyn, New York, was sentenced on June 24, 2026, to five weeks of community service and \$42,500 in restitution. Faye Wilkie-Fields of Brooklyn, New York, was sentenced on June 24, 2026, to three years of probation and \$20,833 in restitution.

A prior investigation identified an Amtrak lead service attendant who had received a suspicious Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). The employee told our agents that Wilkie-Fields assisted him in fraudulently applying for the EIDL and that he paid Wilkie-Fields a \$3,000 kickback in exchange. Wilke-Fields and her family members personally received over \$160,000 in fraudulent Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans to which they were not entitled. Paul Neufville, a Florida resident and a codefendant in the case, also assisted numerous business owners and individuals in fraudulently applying for PPP and EIDL loans in exchange for payments ranging from \$500 to \$2,500.

Neufville and another defendant in this case are scheduled to be sentenced on a future date.