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NYPD Officer Arrested on Welfare Fraud Charges

NEW YORK (AP/ 1010 WINS) -- A New York City police officer has been arrested on charges she forged pay stubs to be eligible for city subsidized housing.

The Manhattan District Attorney's office says Simone Smith was charged Wednesday with welfare fraud and forgery and has been placed on modified duty. She became an officer in 2007.

The city's Department of Investigation says Smith submitted pay stubs claiming she earned only \$32,258 in 2008, when she really made over \$58,000.

DOI says Smith, who's lived in Section 8 housing since 1998, stood to get more than \$7,000 in rental subsidies she wasn't eligible for. She faces four years in prison if convicted.

Smith's attorney, **Jeremy Saland**, described his client as a single mother who has given herself to the NYPD. He says it's wrong that she has to rely on public assistance to provide for her child and put a roof over her head.

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