



Joel E. Abelove
District Attorney

**OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF RENSSELAER**

RENSSELAER COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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**ALBANY MAN ARRESTED FOR STEALING HOMES FROM OWNERS BY
FILING FRAUDULENT DEEDS AND SELLING/RENTING THE PROPERTIES**

Rensselaer County District Attorney Joel E. Abelove announced today that Zarak O. Ali, age 42, was arrested and charged by the New York State Police last week on one (1) count of Burglary in the Third Degree, a class D felony, two (2) counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, class E felonies and two (2) counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, class D felonies. This arrest results from a month-long investigation by the Rensselaer County District Attorney's Office, the Rensselaer County Clerk, the New York State Police, and various other agencies.

It is alleged that the Defendant has sold and rented out houses which he did not legally own or manage. Many of these properties are in Rensselaer County and were involved in bankruptcy and foreclosure actions. At this point, properties in seven counties have been identified as being connected to this investigation. The Rensselaer County District Attorney's Office asks that anyone who has rented or purchased property from Mr. Ali in the past several months, please contact the New York State Police, as the investigation into these matters is still ongoing.

Abelove said, "The allegations against Mr. Ali are very serious and troubling. I strongly encourage anyone who may have had contact with Mr. Ali regarding real estate matters to contact the New York State Police immediately."

All defendants are deemed innocent unless and until convicted in court.

Defendant: Zarak O. Ali

DOB: 06/05/1973

Address: 29 Maiden Lane APT 401, Albany, NY 12207

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