

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAYCARE FRAUD INVESTIGATION YIELDS ADDITIONAL ARREST

Kingston, NY (October 14, 2009) - As a result of a joint investigation by the Ulster County Department of Social Service's Investigations and Daycare Units and the Town of Ulster Police Department, Tara Lober, 29, Kingston, was arrested Tuesday October 6, 2009 and charged with Welfare Fraud in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony. She was also charged with Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a Class E Felony.

The investigation concludes that Lober allegedly defrauded the Ulster County Department of Social Services (DSS) out of \$5,285.00 of daycare subsidies from June 2008 to September 2008, by failing to report she was no longer employed, thus making her ineligible for daycare assistance.

The Lober investigation also led to an audit and investigation of Wolf's Daycare Center, the center that provided daycare services for Lober's children. Melissa Scott, Co-Director of Wolf's Daycare Center was ultimately charged with falsifying business records, plead guilty and was sentenced to a conditional discharge. Scott subsequently made full restitution of \$10,586.00 to Ulster County DSS.

- more -

“I would like to recognize the Town of Ulster Police Department, the Social Services Investigations Unit and all of the individuals who brought this to a successful conclusion. This arrest, once again, sends the message that fraud and abuse will not be tolerated in Ulster County, “said County Executive Mike Hein.

#