Manhattan District Attorney’s Office
Cybercrime and Identity Theft Bureau
“CITB”

Elizabeth Roper, Bureau Chief

Hotline: (212)335-9600

WhatsApp/Signal/Telegram: (347)463-2198
Cybercrime or identity theft related charges make up over 25% of all felony complaints in Manhattan.

Cybercrime and Identity Theft Bureau ("CITB") created in 2010.

CITB provides support and training: areas include electronic evidence, ECPA, blockchain.

Digital Forensic Lab conducts digital forensic and real-time response work throughout the office.

- Including identification of wallets and seizure of cryptocurrency with legal progress.
CITB - Blockchain Investigations

TOOLS

• Dedicated blockchain/cryptocurrency analysts
• In-house investigators
• Hotline (2022: ~75 total calls, ~45 related to NFTs)
• WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram
• Digital forensics lab
• Third-party software

CHALLENGES

• Cold storage wallets
• Overseas entities, jurisdiction
• Rapidly-evolving tech
• Talent retention/training
Blockchain Investigations: Case types

➢ Theft of cryptocurrency
  ○ Traditional theft by force
  ○ Account takeovers/phishing
  ○ Romanceotech support schemes, “pig butchering” etc.

➢ Money Laundering activity
  ○ Darknet marketplaces
  ○ Gift card brokering
NFT Fraud – a surge in complaints

Theft of NFTs occurring via:

• Phishing/theft of seed phrases
• Account/wallet takeovers
• Malicious smart contracts – *check token approvals*

Other types of fraud:
• Investment schemes
• Rug pulls