



NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Inspector General
Catherine Leahy Scott

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 24, 2017

Contact [John Milgrim](#): 518-474-1010

ADDENDUM: During the pendency of this matter in court, Carol Cashdollar paid full restitution to New York State in the amount of \$9,355.68. Ms. Cashdollar passed away due to an illness on Jan. 10, 2018, and the charges were dismissed in the interest of justice.

FORMER STATE EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH THEFT OF MORE THAN \$9,300 IN WAGES BY SUBMITTING FAKE MEDICAL RECORDS TO SUBSTANTIATE 111 SICK DAYS

ALBANY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott announced the arrest of a former New York State employee with the Office of Children and Family Services (“OCFS”) on charges she stole more than \$9,300 in wages through the repeated submission of faked medical records to fraudulently substantiate 111 paid sick days.

Carol Cashdollar, 56, of Cohoes, was arraigned today in Cohoes City Court and charged with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree and seven counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing, felonies, and Official Misconduct, a misdemeanor.

An investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott found that Cashdollar, a former OCFS Office Assistant 2 who retired from government service in early October during an investigation into her use of sick days, repeatedly submitted fake medical documents including a forged Family Medical Leave Act application and falsified medical notes. The fraudulent documents were all submitted in order to substantiate paid sick leave for 111 days she was absent from work between May 2015 and November 2016. For most of those days, she was eligible to receive 50 percent of her regular salary if she was able to show a legitimate medical reason for the time off. In total, she fraudulently received \$9,355.68 in income.

“This defendant manipulated and abused taxpayer-subsidized benefits so she could get paid for more than three months of not working, and then compounded her culpability with a forged Family and Medical Leave Act application to protect her job,” said Inspector General Leahy Scott. “Her actions violated the public trust and defiled legal employment protections that are critical to working New Yorkers and their families. I will use all of the resources at my disposal to protect public funds as well as the New York Paid Family Leave Benefits Law against such brazen abuse.”

Cashdollar was arraigned in Cohoes City Court and released pending her reappearance in court on Nov. 28, 2017.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the Office of Children and Family Services for its assistance with the investigation, the City of Cohoes Police Department for their assistance with the arrest, and Albany County District Attorney P. David Soares and his office for prosecuting this matter.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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