



# NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General  
**Catherine Leahy Scott**

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## **ROCHESTER MAN PAYS FULL RESTITUTION AND PLEADS GUILTY TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD FOR CASHING HIS DECEASED MOTHER'S BENEFIT CHECKS**

ROCHESTER – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott today announced the guilty plea of, and payment of full restitution by, a City of Rochester man on charges he defrauded the Workers' Compensation system by cashing nearly \$4,000 worth of benefits checks meant for his mother who had passed away months earlier.

Curtis Lee Wilson, 56, of Norton Street, Rochester, pleaded guilty in Rochester City Court to the crime of Petit Larceny and paid for full restitution of the entire amount stolen.

An investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott found that Wilson cashed six Workers' Compensation benefit checks mailed to his mother after she passed away in October 2015. Workers' Compensation benefits cease upon the death of a recipient, but Wilson repeatedly cashed checks meant for his mother through February 2016.

In total, Wilson defrauded the Workers' Compensation system by stealing \$3,914.52 in benefits to which he was not entitled.

“This defendant enriched himself through the morbid abuse of his own deceased mother's benefits to which he was not entitled,” said Inspector General Leahy Scott. “I will continue working tirelessly with my law enforcement partners to protect critical Workers' Compensation benefits for those who truly need them.”

Wilson pleaded guilty today in Rochester City Court and was sentenced to a one year conditional discharge.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked Rochester Regional Health and PMA Management Corporation, for their assistance with the investigation, the New York State Police for their assistance with the arrest, and Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley and her office for prosecuting this matter.

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*The New York State Office of the Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General investigates fraud, abuse and/or illegal acts against the New York State Workers' Compensation system, including fraud by medical service providers, employers seeking to evade appropriate Workers' Compensation charges, and employees who fabricate injuries to fraudulently receive system benefits. Complaints and referrals are kept confidential. We can be reached by calling toll free: 1-800-367-4448, utilizing our online complaint form at*

<http://www.ig.ny.gov> or sending an email to: [inspector.general@ig.ny.gov](mailto:inspector.general@ig.ny.gov). You also can write to our office at:  
*Office of the Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General, Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 2, 16th  
Floor, Albany, New York 12223*