



# NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Inspector General  
**Catherine Leahy Scott**

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## **DIRECT CARE WORKER FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO SERVE JAIL TIME AND REPAY NEARLY \$40,000 FOR BILLING STATE FOR WORK HE NEVER PERFORMED**

ALBANY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott today announced the guilty plea of a former substitute direct care worker for the State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (“OPWDD”) for submitting fraudulent pay vouchers and receiving nearly \$40,000 in compensation for most of a year in which he never actually worked for the State.

Timothy B. Green, 27, of South New Berlin, pleaded guilty in Chenango County Court to Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a felony. As part of the plea agreement, Green will serve six months in jail and five years under probation supervision. He will also have to pay \$39,096.72 in restitution for hours he billed the State but never actually worked.

The investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott found Green had been employed as a substitute direct care worker at the OPWDD Valley Ridge Center for Intensive Treatment in Norwich starting in November 2013. As a substitute, Green worked on an “as needed” basis to cover shifts left vacant by regular staff and would submit payment vouchers, which required a supervisor’s signature verifying hours worked, to the OPWDD payroll offices in Binghamton.

The Inspector General’s investigation determined that Green worked no shifts subsequent to January 2015, but he continued to submit 36 fraudulent vouchers as if he had worked shifts through September 2015. Those vouchers, with forged signatures from his supervisor, resulted in his being paid \$39,096.72 for shifts never worked. After his submitted vouchers were called into question last fall, and the Inspector General began to investigate, payments to Green were stopped. Nonetheless, Green repeatedly called OPWDD payroll offices to inquire into the status of payments he had not yet received.

“This defendant perpetuated this fraud for nearly a year and had the audacity to repeatedly call agency officials demanding payment for work he never performed,” **said Inspector General Leahy Scott**. “I will use the resources of my offices to relentlessly pursue State workers and contractors who violate the public’s trust and steal from taxpayers.”

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the New York State Police for assisting in the arrest and thanked Chenango County District Attorney Joseph McBride and his office for prosecuting the criminal case.

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