



NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Inspector General
Catherine Leahy Scott

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 15, 2016
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THRUWAY TOLL PLAZAS MANAGER CHARGED WITH FALSIFYING TRAVEL VOUCHERS FOR TRIPS NEVER TAKEN

ALBANY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott announced the arrest of a manager of State Thruway Authority toll plazas for altering hotel receipts and falsifying a travel voucher to get reimbursed for travel he never took.

Brian A. Gulotta, 49, of James Street, Green Island, was charged today with Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree and two counts of Forgery in the Second Degree, felonies, and Official Misconduct, a misdemeanor.

“This defendant manufactured invoices for hotel trips he never made with the hope of putting unearned taxpayer funds in his pocket, and in doing so he violated the law and the public trust,” said Inspector General Leahy Scott. “I will use all of my powers and resources to pursue anyone who defrauds the State and steals the public’s money.”

An investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott found that Gulotta, the Thruway Authority’s Albany Toll Division Manager, duplicated a coworker’s hotel receipts, inserted his own name and submitted a travel voucher late last year to obtain reimbursement for the stays that were not his. When questioned by investigators, Gulotta admitted to his actions: “Well, I made them; I duplicated her receipts with my name, yes,” Gulotta told investigators, according to court documents. And when asked about the hotel room number on the receipts he submitted, he said, “I just made it up, obviously I didn’t make it up very well, I left the same room.”

Gulotta was arraigned in Albany City Court and released pending reappearance in City Court Sept. 22.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the New York State Police 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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