



NEWS RELEASE

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

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BRONX MAN CHARGED WITH MORE THAN \$19,000 WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD

NEW YORK CITY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott and Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced the arrest of a Bronx man on charges he defrauded the Workers' Compensation system and stole more than \$19,000 in insurance benefits to which he was not entitled by claiming he was not working when in fact he was.

Darren Henderson, 58, of 169th Street, the Bronx, was arrested and charged today with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, Insurance Fraud in the Third and Fourth Degrees, seven counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, and the Workers' Compensation crime of Fraudulent Practices, all felonies, and Petit Larceny, seven counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the Second Degree, and Insurance Fraud in the Fifth Degree, misdemeanors.

An investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott found that Henderson sustained an injury in September 2013 while working as a truck driver for a Connecticut-based moving company. Henderson, at the time, stopped working and began collecting Workers' Compensation benefit payments. While receiving those payments, Henderson took a job in late 2014 with a Bronx-based moving company and subsequently misrepresented to his doctor and the Workers' Compensation insurance company that he was not employed or working in any capacity. He continued receiving benefits throughout that time as if he was not working for a total of \$19,622 in benefits to which he was not entitled.

“This defendant’s misrepresentations were a brazen abuse of a benefits program meant to assist honest, hard-working New Yorkers who become disabled through a work-related injury,” said **Inspector General Leahy Scott**. “I will continue to work with my law enforcement partners and dedicate the necessary resources to protect the integrity of the state’s vital Workers’ Compensation system.”

“Stealing from the Workers’ Compensation insurance program is a serious crime,” said **Bronx District Attorney Clark**. “These benefits are for injured people who truly need them, and anyone who defrauds this program will be prosecuted.”

Under State law, employers are required to maintain Workers’ Compensation coverage for their employees, and employees are expected to provide truthful information regarding their work activity to insurance carriers and the Workers’ Compensation Board during the time they are receiving benefits.

Henderson was arraigned on the charges in Bronx Criminal Court and released pending further court action.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the State Insurance Fund for their assistance with the investigation and Bronx County District Attorney Darcel D. Clark and her office for their work on this investigation and for prosecuting this case.

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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. 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