



# NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Nov. 28, 2018  
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## **STATE EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH FALSIFYING RENTAL CAR STATEMENTS WITH BOGUS MILEAGE AND TIME LOGS**

SYRACUSE – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott today announced the arrest of a State Office of Children and Family Services (“OCFS”) employee accused of repeatedly altering and submitting fake receipts, with altered mileage and pick-up and drop-off times, for cars she routinely rented for her job.

Sonya Miller, 47, of Camillus, an Employee Assistance Program (“EAP”) Coordinator with OCFS, was charged with two counts each of Forgery in the Second Degree and Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, felonies.

“This defendant’s alleged routine fabrications were an affront to the public trust and a corrupt distortion of routine time and mileage records,” said Inspector General Leahy Scott. “Her contemptuous excuses only furthered her culpability and I will remain steadfast in pursuing anyone who criminally exploits their responsibilities as a public servant.”

The investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott found that Miller repeatedly falsified the mileage as well as the pick-up and drop-off times on car rental company receipts from rentals she regularly used for her government job. Miller routinely rented vehicles to perform her job duties which entailed traveling throughout the Finger Lakes and Central New York regions to meet with OCFS employees regarding EAP matters. The charges against Miller directly relate to two dates in May and June but court records indicate she admitted routinely altering and submitting those falsified vehicle rental receipts for work. “I’ve been doing it forever so it’s almost habit, where it’s obviously not allowed to be done... That is one thing I’ve done all along, I think every time I’ve travelled,” Miller told an investigator, according to court records. Each time Miller submitted a rental receipt with OCFS she certified it as true and accurate.

Miller was arraigned on the charges Tuesday evening and released pending her appearance in the City of Syracuse Court on Dec. 3, 2018.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the New York State Police for their assistance with the arrest, and Onondaga County District Attorney William J. Fitzpatrick and his office for prosecuting this matter.

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