



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the New York State Welfare Inspector General
Catherine Leahy Scott – Acting Welfare Inspector General

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FORMER TROY HOUSING AUTHORITY OFFICIAL INDICTED FOR THEFT OF NEARLY \$50,000 IN FOOD STAMPS AND HOUSING AID

TROY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott announced today the indictment of a former Troy Housing Authority official on charges he fraudulently collected nearly \$50,000 in public assistance and housing subsidies he wasn't entitled to.

Paul Moses, 58, was indicted on the charges of two counts of Grand Larceny in the Third-Degree, six counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First-Degree, six counts of Falsifying Business Records in the First-Degree and one count of Welfare Fraud in the Third-Degree, all felonies.

Inspector General Leahy Scott's investigation found that Paul Moses, 57, a former member of the Troy Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners and resident of an Authority property until shortly after his arrest in June, received \$8,730 in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits that he was not entitled to between 2009 and 2015. He also received \$40,842 in unwarranted rental subsidies from the Troy Housing Authority from 2006 through 2015. In his applications for SNAP benefits (also known as food stamps) and rental subsidies, Moses indicated he had no employment income. The investigation determined Moses in fact had been working as a bartender at a tavern in Troy for the past nine years.

Moses had been a tenant representative elected to the Troy Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners since 2009. Tenants in Authority apartments may receive rental subsidies based on their income. Moses's alleged crimes enabled him to pay significantly less rent than he was entitled during the past seven years.

"This former housing representative used food stamps and housing subsidies to fraudulently enhance his quality of life," said Inspector General Leahy Scott. "These charges allege an audacious abuse of resources meant for those who are the neediest in our community, and the defendant will be held accountable for his actions."

Moses was arraigned before Rensselaer County Court Judge Debra Young and was released pending further court action.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked Rensselaer County District Attorney Joel E. Abelove and his office for prosecuting this matter and the Troy Housing Authority and Rensselaer County Sheriff's Department for their assistance in the investigation and arrest.

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