



NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Acting Inspector General
Catherine Leahy Scott

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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State Paid for Worker While Vacationing and Gambling

OMIG Employee Charged with Grand Larceny and Falsifying Records

ALBANY, NY - Acting Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott announced today the arrest of an Office of the Medicaid Inspector General employee on felony charges accusing her of stealing from the State and filing false paperwork certifying that she was working, when in fact she was not.

Bobbie Barbour, age 34, of East Greenbush, was arrested this morning by the New York State Office of the Inspector General investigators, and charged with Grand Larceny in the Fourth degree and six counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, all felonies. She faces up to four years in prison if convicted.

The Inspector General's investigation revealed that Barbour had worked full time with the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General since November 2008. After only two years of state service, Barbour on multiple occasions filed certifications that she had worked a full work week, when she had not. In fact, the investigation uncovered instances where Barbour represented that she was working, when she was actually on vacation travelling to and from a resort located in Cancun, Mexico; at Turning Stone Casino, once winning over \$200 while on state time; and attending a small claims court proceeding. As a result of these false time-record certifications, Barbour was paid over \$1000 salary, to which she was not entitled.

"New Yorkers rightfully expect that state employees do their jobs with integrity," said Acting Inspector General Scott. "Theft from the State will not be tolerated, and my office will continue to vigorously root out individuals who abuse the public's trust. I will work with state agencies to ensure systems are put into place to prevent these types of fraud."

Barbour was arraigned today before Albany City Court Judge William A. Carter, and was released upon her own recognizance.

Barbour has worked for the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General as a Clerk 1. Her current salary is \$30,561.00.

Acting Inspector General Scott thanked the New York State Police for their assistance in the case and the Albany County District Attorney's Office for the prosecution of this matter.

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

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