



# NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 14, 2016  
Contact [John Milgrim](#): 518-474-1010

## **FORMER GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE SENTENCED TO FULL RESTITUTION FOR STEALING NEARLY \$60,000 FROM DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED UNDER STATE CARE**

NEW YORK CITY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott today announced the sentencing of a former employee with the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (“OPWDD”) who stole nearly \$60,000 from agency clients under State care.

Yolanda Price, 45, of Halsey Street, Brooklyn, pleaded guilty in July to Grand Larceny in the Second Degree and Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree for stealing \$57,546.84 from the accounts of developmentally disabled clients of OPWDD between 2008 and 2015. She worked for OPWDD at the time as an office assistant at their state operations office in Manhattan. As part of her duties, Price was charged with depositing cash belonging to OPWDD clients into bank accounts for their own personal use. She stole the funds by depositing only part of the money she received and pocketing the rest.

“This defendant violated the public trust and victimized some of our most vulnerable citizens,” said Inspector General Leahy Scott. “I will use the resources of my office to pursue anyone who victimizes individuals under State care.”

Price, who was separated from State service in July 2015, was sentenced in New York County Supreme Court in Manhattan today to five years of probation, during the first year of which she must finish returning to all the victims the balance of the \$57,546.84 she stole.

###