



NEWS RELEASE

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

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STATEMENT BY NEW YORK STATE INSPECTOR GENERAL CATHERINE LEAHY SCOTT ON THE FEDERAL GUILTY PLEA OF CHERRISSE WATSON-JACKSON

THE FORMER NYC SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGER LED A NEAR \$2 MILLION PUBLIC BENEFITS THEFT RING INVOLVING RED BULL FOR WELFARE AND SHAM LANDLORD SCHEMES

“This former social services supervisor should have been helping New York’s neediest families but instead turned to elaborate criminal schemes to help herself and her accomplices to upwards of \$2 million in public funds,” said **Inspector General Leahy Scott**. “Her guilty plea underscores a clear message that my law enforcement partners and I will not tolerate the use of public office and public resources for criminal activity, or for any violation of the public trust.”

A copy of the Dec. 1, 2015 press release announcing the arrests in this case can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

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The New York State Office of the Welfare Inspector General investigates fraud, abuse or illegal acts committed against public assistance programs designed to help those in need. Our office also investigates complaints about the agencies and local social services districts who administer social services programs. Complaints and referrals are kept confidential. We can be reached by calling toll free: 1-800-367-4448, utilizing our online complaint form: <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 Welfare Inspector General, Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 2, 16th Floor Albany, New York 12223