



NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Inspector General
Catherine Leahy Scott

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STATE MECHANIC PLEADS GUILTY TO USING GOVERNMENT CREDIT CARD TO PURCHASE CAR PARTS AND TIRES FOR HIS OWN PERSONAL USE

ALBANY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott today announced the guilty plea and payment of full restitution by a State Office of General Services (“OGS”) motor equipment mechanic on charges he used his government-issued credit card to purchase tires and car parts for his personal use and subsequently filed fraudulent paperwork in an attempt to conceal his thefts from auditors.

Daniel Sequin, 41, of Livingston Avenue, Scotia, pleaded guilty today to petit larceny, paid \$2,561 in restitution for his crime, and resigned from State service.

“This defendant’s brazen and repeated thefts from New York taxpayers has resulted in a criminal conviction and lost him his job,” said **Inspector General Leahy Scott**. “I will continue to use my office to pursue anybody who violates the public trust and steals from taxpayers.”

An investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott with the cooperation and assistance of OGS revealed that from November 2014 to February 2015, Sequin used his State-issued credit card to purchase \$2,561 worth of tires and car parts for himself, another OGS employee, and an OGS employee’s wife. On March 10, 2015, OGS auditors contacted Sequin and told him they planned to conduct an audit of all tires in his work garage at 11 a.m. that day. Sequin asked that the audit be conducted an hour later and in the meantime he instructed another OGS employee to purchase six tires and bring them back to the garage. After the audit was completed, Sequin asked the other employee to return those six tires to the retail store from which he purchased them. Sequin also altered multiple auto parts receipts to try to conceal the identifying vehicle information so that an OGS auditor would not know that auto parts were purchased for non-State vehicles. OGS subsequently brought this matter to the Inspector General for investigation.

Sequin pleaded guilty and was simultaneously sentenced in Albany City Court.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the Office of General Services for their assistance with the investigation, the New York State Police for their assistance with the arrest, and Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman and his office for prosecuting this matter.

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