



# NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General  
**Catherine Leahy Scott**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 14, 2017  
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## **RETIRED NORTH COUNTRY POLICE OFFICER CHARGED WITH WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD**

ALBANY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott today announced the arrest of a retired City of Ogdensburg police officer on Workers' Compensation fraud charges for denying he was performing any work activities while receiving benefits when he was indeed working at a North Country raceway.

Greg A. Sweet, 51, of Theresa, New York, was charged today with two counts of the Workers' Compensation crime of Fraudulent Practices, and one count each of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree and Insurance Fraud in the Third Degree, all felonies.

An investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott found that Sweet sustained a work-related wrist injury in 1998 after which he stopped working and began receiving Workers' Compensation Benefits at full pay. Sweet retired in 2007 and continued to receive Workers' Compensation benefits from the St. Lawrence County Self Insurance Plan, which covered the Ogdensburg Police Department's employees. On August 23, 2012 and September 23, 2012, Sweet completed work activity questionnaires for the insurance plan in which he stated that he was not engaged in any type of employment or volunteer activities. Contrary to Sweet's statements, the investigation revealed that Sweet was working at the time at the Can Am Motor Speedway in Lafargeville performing various tasks including track maintenance and acting as a flagman during races. As a result of his misrepresentations, Sweet obtained in excess of \$3,000 in Workers' Compensation benefits to which he was not entitled.

"This defendant committed fraud through misrepresenting his work status, enabling him to receive thousands of dollars in benefits to which he was not entitled," said Inspector General Leahy Scott. "I will continue to use the resources of my office to pursue anyone who steals benefits that are meant to protect honest, hard-working New Yorkers."

Under State law, employers are required to maintain Workers' Compensation coverage for their employees, and employees are expected to provide truthful information regarding their work activity to insurance carriers and the Workers' Compensation Board during the time they are receiving benefits.

Sweet was arraigned in the Town of Canton Court and released pending further court action.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the New York State Police for their assistance with the arrest, and St. Lawrence County District Attorney Mary E. Rain and her office for prosecuting this matter.

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*The New York State Office of the Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General investigates fraud, abuse and/or illegal acts against the New York State Workers' Compensation system, including fraud by medical service providers, employers seeking to evade appropriate Workers' Compensation charges, and employees who fabricate injuries to fraudulently receive system benefits. Complaints and referrals are kept confidential. We can be reached by calling toll free: 1-800-367-4448, utilizing our online complaint form at <http://www.ig.ny.gov> or sending an email to: [inspector.general@ig.ny.gov](mailto:inspector.general@ig.ny.gov). You also can write to our office at: Office of the Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General, Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 2, 16th Floor, Albany, New York 12223*