



NEWS RELEASE

From New York State Inspector General
Catherine Leahy Scott

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STATE EMPLOYEE FALSIFIED RESUME WITH FAKE COLLEGE CREDENTIALS

ALBANY – New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott announced today the arrest of a State employee on charges of falsifying her resume by indicating she had Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from universities she never attended, and never actually received any higher education degrees at all.

Qiana Joy-L Woods, 38, of Broadway, Menands, was charged today with three counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, felonies.

An investigation by Inspector General Leahy Scott’s found that Woods, when hired by the State Department of Motor Vehicles as a customer representative in 2013, provided a resume claiming she had a Bachelor’s Degree from Morgan State University in Baltimore, but she never actually attended the school. The resume she submitted to get her more recent job as an office assistant at the State Thruway Authority in 2014 also falsely indicated the degree from Morgan. Three months ago, while still working at the Thruway Authority, she applied for an office assistant job at the State Office of General Services where she submitted a resume indicating the Morgan degree as well as a Master’s Degree from the State University of New York’s University at Albany, where she also never attended school. Woods has no college degrees whatsoever.

The investigation also found she was hired over other job candidates because of her false representation of earning college degrees.

“This defendant defrauded the State with falsified credentials feigning higher education degrees she never obtained in order to increase her chances for State employment at the expense of other qualified candidates,” said Inspector General Leahy Scott. “I will continue using the resources of my office to pursue anyone who defrauds the State.”

Woods was arraigned in Albany City Court and released pending her appearance in court Monday, August 15.

Inspector General Leahy Scott thanked the State Thruway Authority for their assistance with the investigation, the New York State Police for their assistance with the arrest and Albany County District Attorney P. David Soares and his office for prosecuting this matter.

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