



Department of Investigation

Press Release

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DOI Arrests City FISA Clerk In Laptop Computer Theft

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2000

EDWARD J. KURIANSKY, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), today announced the felony arrest of DARRELL T. SCOTT, a City Financial Information Services Agency (FISA) clerk, for stealing a laptop computer and software, with a combined valued of about \$1,240, from the agency's midtown Manhattan offices.

According to Commissioner Kuriansky, FISA is a state-of-the-art information technology services center which provides centralized financial and payroll information to officials who administer the City's budget, account for its funds, procure goods and services for its agencies, or require employee payroll and personnel information.

Commissioner Kuriansky said that DOI began an investigation last month when FISA security personnel reported that an IBM Thinkpad 600 laptop computer, the property of a FISA consulting firm, American Management Systems (AMS), had been taken from a fourth-floor work area at FISA's 450/460 West 33rd Street headquarters.

A surveillance videotape showed SCOTT, on Sunday, September 17, 2000, between 8:50 and 8:52 a.m., carrying what appeared to be an empty cardboard box, entering the work area where the laptop was kept, staying briefly in the area, and then leaving, still carrying the box, and returning to his work station, a short distance away on the same floor. The computer system server log recorded that the laptop was disconnected from FISA's computer system network sometime between 6:17 a.m. and 10:17 a.m. on Sunday, September 17.

The investigation further revealed that SCOTT, whose assigned schedule called for him to work Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., had worked on September 17, but had left early, about 5:55 p.m., carrying a backpack, after telling FISA officials that he had become sick.

SCOTT, 32, of 2885 Briggs Avenue in the Bronx, was charged with Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, a Class E felony. If convicted, he faces up to 4 years in prison.

SCOTT, a clerical associate, was hired by FISA on May 26, 1998, and earns \$24,249 a year. He has been suspended pending the outcome of the case.

Commissioner Kuriansky expressed his sincere appreciation to Robert W. Townsend, FISA's Acting Executive Director, and members of his staff for their assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI Assistant Commissioner and FISA Inspector General Vincent E. Green and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Maureen A. Thomas, First Assistant Inspector General Jeffrey Dolcimascolo, and Assistant Inspector General Joseph Medina.

The Office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case. Assistant District Attorney Lisa Del Pizzo is handling the matter.