



## **Office of the Inspector General Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

---

### **Quincy Man Admits to Larceny from Tenants Association Following Inspector General Investigation, March 2015**

In September 2012, the Quincy District Clerk Magistrate issued a criminal complaint against Edward Smelcer, the former president of the Harborview Residents Committee, Inc. (HRCI) and a former tenant of the Quincy Housing Authority (QHA). HRCI is the tenants association for the QHA.

The complaint charged Smelcer with two counts of larceny over \$250, one count of larceny by false pretenses and three counts of larceny under \$250, in violation of M.G.L. c. 266, § 30(1), and M.G.L. c. 266, § 34. The charges stemmed from an investigation by the Inspector General's Office, which uncovered evidence that Smelcer used his position as HRCI's president to steal over \$3,100 in funds that were supposed to be used to help his fellow housing authority residents. The investigation revealed that Smelcer took \$1,300 in cash from an HRCI savings account and \$940 in cash withdrawals using an HRCI debit card. He also used HRCI's debit card to buy gasoline (\$564.07), purchase an airline ticket (\$141.90) and pay veterinary bills (\$241.56).

On March 20, 2015, Smelcer pled to sufficient facts to one count of larceny over \$250 before Judge Franco Gobourne in Quincy District Court. Smelcer was ordered to pay \$1,693.46 in restitution to HRCI within three months. Judge Gobourne also ordered Smelcer to pay a \$90 witness/victim fee and \$50 in court fees.

The Norfolk District Attorney's Office, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of the Inspector General, the Quincy Police Department, and the Quincy Housing Authority provided assistance during this investigation.