



## ***New York State Insurance Fund***

*Workers' Compensation & Disability Benefits Specialist since 1914*

### **NEWS**

# **Ronkonkoma Woman Pays Steep Price for Fraud**

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A 37-year-old Ronkonkoma woman paid \$41,160 in restitution and faces five years on probation after pleading guilty in a case of workers' compensation against The New York State Insurance Fund.

Lisa Marie Cavalieri pled guilty to third degree grand larceny in Nassau County Court on August 8, stemming from her November 2006 arrest by Nassau County DA Kathleen Rice's Office on felony workers' compensation fraud charges.

"There are real costs involved in workers' compensation fraud – costs that drain resources from the system and the costs to individuals who eventually get caught," NYSIF Executive Director/CEO David P. Wehner said. "This is something we have impressed upon the public for many years. There is no free ride. We aggressively fight fraud at NYSIF with help from our associates in the law enforcement community."

Ms. Cavalieri began receiving \$350 a week in workers' compensation benefits from NYSIF after claiming a back injury as a marketing display manager in March 1998. Investigators found, however, that Ms. Cavalieri had returned to work in an office in February 2004, while denying to NYSIF that she was working.

In addition to the \$41,160 she unlawfully received, NYSIF estimated potential future savings in the case of approximately \$248,719 in unpaid benefits as a result of the arrest and conviction.

Investigators said Ms. Cavalieri also signed an agreement closing any future claim for benefits in her case.

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