



**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
PALM BEACH COUNTY**

MEMORANDUM OF CORRECTIVE ACTION

Sheryl G. Steckler
Inspector General

Date: September 17, 2012

To: Ed Mitchell, City Administrator
West Palm Beach, Florida

From: Sheryl G. Steckler *SS*
Inspector General

Subject: OIG Case #: 2012-0028
Former Water Utilities Department Maintenance Leader Arnold DOMAN¹

On May 2, 2012, an allegation was forwarded to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) by a concerned citizen who observed an unidentified male driving a vehicle with what appeared to be a County-issued licensed tag at a local pawn shop. According to the citizen, the unidentified male was pawning mechanical equipment. Upon preliminary investigation by the OIG, the male subject was later identified as Arnold Doman, a City of West Palm Beach (City) Water Utilities Department Maintenance Leader. This case was subsequently coordinated for possible criminal violations with the Public Integrity Unit (PIU), Office of the State Attorney, in and for Palm Beach County, Florida and investigated by the West Palm Beach Police Department.

On August 16, 2012, Mr. Doman was arrested and charged with the following:

- Grand Theft: § 812.014(2)(c)(1), F.S. (one count)
- Dealing in Stolen Property: § 812.019(1), F.S. (five counts)
- False Verification of Ownership of Pawns < \$300.00: § 539.001(8)(b)(8)(a), F.S. (three counts)
- False Verification of Ownership of Pawns > \$300.00: § 539.001(8)(b)(8)(b), F.S. (two counts)

According to the Probable Cause Affidavit filed in this case, when interviewed by the West Palm Beach Police Department, Mr. Doman confessed to committing the aforementioned violations. Pawn records obtained by the West Palm Beach Police Department identified the following equipment pawned by Mr. Doman:

¹ Mr. Doman is no longer employed by the City as a result of this arrest.

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- Husky brand compressor
- ***Milwaukee brand hammer drill and adaptor***
- ***Homelite 2" trash pump***
- ***Fluke brand Megometh electrical multimeter***
- Makita brand cordless drills (2)
- Proto brand ratchet
- Pulsar brand pump
- ***Liftall brand lifting straps***
- Dewalt brand saw blades (3)
- ***Stihl brand concrete saw***

It is noted that Mr. Doman only admitted to pawning the bold/italics items above in City-owned equipment.

The OIG conducted interviews with WUD Operations and Maintenance Superintendent, and the WUD Maintenance Supervisor, who stated that WUD equipment valued at under \$1,000.00 was not marked with asset numbers. Staff members provided the following:

- Log Sheets were never used to monitor equipment usage.
- Equipment inventories for items located in City compounds were only conducted once a year and only for items valued at over \$1000.00.
- Equipment was sometimes stored in City utility vehicles because there were no central storage locations.
- Equipment inventories for items located in City utility vehicles were "loosely" conducted.

Based on the aforementioned, the OIG recommends the following corrective actions:

- Review the current inventory control methods in place and implement a tracking system (i.e., sign in/out log) for all WUD equipment.

Please review and notify us of any corrective actions taken by **October 7, 2012**.