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## Two Defendants Sentenced for Stealing Unemployment Insurance Benefits from NYS Department of Labor



**ALBANY, NY** – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that GENEVIE BICKLEY, 52, of Albany and PAUL FASSELL, 33, of Albany, have each been sentenced for their roles in collecting unemployment insurance they were not entitled to receive.

FASSELL was sentenced to 5 years of Felony Probation, Restitution in the form of \$17,022.50 and 100 hours of Community Service, while BICKLEY was sentenced to 5 years of Felony Probation, Restitution in the form of \$19,946.25 and 250 hours of Community Service. Both defendants were sentenced before the Honorable Peter A. Lynch in Albany County Court this morning.

On January 24, 2013, BICKLEY pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony. On January 30, 2013, FASSELL pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, a Class D Felony.

Between July 6, 2009 and January 2, 2012, PAUL FASSELL stole \$17,022.50 in unemployment insurance benefits from the New York State Department of Labor by falsely certifying that he was unemployed when he was gainfully employed and not entitled to receiving any such benefits.

Between March 28, 2011 and March 18, 2012, GENEVIE BICKLEY stole \$19,946.25 in unemployment insurance benefits from the New York State Department of Labor by falsely certifying that she was totally unemployed when she was in fact working and not entitled to any such benefits.

“Both defendants in this case not only defrauded the State through their criminal conduct, but also the taxpayers of Albany County and members of our community who are rightfully entitled to unemployment insurance. I want to thank ADA Clark for holding these two defendants accountable for their actions and for ensuring the Department of Labor receives every dollar in restitution from both defendants,” commented DA Soares.

Assistant District Attorney Benjamin Clark of the Financial Crimes Bureau prosecuted both cases.

For more information please contact Cecilia Logue.

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