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Additional Arraignment in Alleged Funeral Home Fraud Case

ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares announced today that MARK S. FIET, 64, of Clifton Park, was arraigned on (1) Count of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony, and (1) Count of Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, in Watervliet City Court this morning. FIET pleaded not guilty to the charges and was released on his own recognizance to appear at a later date.

In 2013, an independent forensic account audit for the Parker Brothers Memorial Funeral Home in Watervliet, NY, uncovered fraudulent entries in the business record books during a period of time between 2011 and 2013.

An investigation led by the New York State Police uncovered that during those dates, FIET, with the assistance of co-defendant SAMUEL F. CATALANO, JR., did allegedly steal in excess of \$3000 from the proceeds of the funeral home and proceed to make false entries in the business records of

the establishment.

At the time of the alleged theft, FIET was working as the funeral home director and CATALANO JR. was a manager of the business.

CATALANO JR., 58, was previously arraigned on (1) Count of Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, a Class C Felony, (1) Count of Conspiracy in the Fourth Degree, and (1) Count of Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, a Class E Felony.

The case against CATALANO JR. remains open and pending.

Financial Crimes Unit Bureau Chief Daniel Lynch is prosecuting this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh (518) 275-4710.

All parties are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty and convicted

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