



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
P. DAVID SOARES  
6 LODGE STREET  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207  
(518) 487-5460  
(518) 487-5093 FAX

**CONTACT:** CECILIA WALSH (518) 275-4710

[CECILIA.WALSH@ALBANYCOUNTYNY.GOV](mailto:CECILIA.WALSH@ALBANYCOUNTYNY.GOV)

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## **Guilty Plea in Bolton Wastewater Treatment Facility Records Fraud Case**



**ALBANY, NY** – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that THOMAS FRENCH, 37, of Bolton Landing, pleaded guilty to (1) Count of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the Second Degree, as a Class A Misdemeanor, before the Honorable Holly Trexler in Albany City Court yesterday morning.

On several occasions during April and May of 2017, FRENCH intentionally falsified recordings of pH and Phosphate level readings in water sampled from the treatment plant at the Town of Bolton Wastewater Treatment Facility.

FRENCH, who was the Chief Operator and Superintendent of the facility, then submitted these false records of the sampling results to be filed with the Town of Bolton and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at its state office headquarters in Albany. The improper entries on mandatory Wastewater Facility Operating Report forms were made with an intent to defraud the State.

FRENCH faces 3 years of Probation at sentencing in Albany City Court on December 6, 2018. Additionally, FRENCH will be subject to a revocation of his certification/license to operate a waste water treatment plant.

The investigation was led by the DEC's Bureau of Environmental Crimes Investigations Unit.

Assistant District Attorney Benjamin Mastaitis is handling the prosecution of this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710 or [cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov](mailto:cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov)

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