

NEWS RELEASE

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Inspector General's Investigation Results in Criminal Charges

Former state employee charged with theft, official misconduct

INDIANAPOLIS (May 28, 2026) – An investigation conducted by the Indiana Office of Inspector General has resulted in two criminal charges against a former state employee.

The Marion County prosecutor filed charges against Steven L. Harris, a former employee with the Indiana Veteran's Home. The charges allege that Harris committed theft and official misconduct. Charging documents accuse Harris of using state time and a state-issued vehicle in ways inconsistent with his official duties.

A pre-trial conference is set for June 2, 2026.

"Our investigators' diligence and the Indiana Veterans' Home's full cooperation uncovered evidence that warranted certifying these charges to the prosecutor," said Indiana Inspector General Jared Prentice. "The prosecutor's decision to file those charges demonstrates that accountability in state government is not optional — for anyone."

Both charges are level 6 felonies, carrying a potential sentence of two and a half years.

A charge is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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About the Indiana Office of Inspector General

The role of the Inspector General and staff is to reduce fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement and wrongdoing in state executive branch agencies. Through education, advice, investigations, prosecutions and legislative recommendations, the Inspector General fosters a culture of integrity that contributes to public confidence – supporting Governor Mike Braun's focus on a more transparent, accountable and efficient state government.