



Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller

June 26, 2017

Former Lauderdale County School Employees Indicted for Theft

A special report from the Tennessee Comptroller's Office has found that two former employees of the Lauderdale County Department of Education continued to receive compensation after their employment with the school system had ended.

Educational assistant Devlyn Green terminated her employment with Lauderdale County in May 2014; however, auditors determined she continued to receive direct deposits to her personal bank account until December 19, 2016. This resulted in Green receiving salary overpayments of \$33,510.95.

The School Department also paid the employer portion of Green's Social Security and Medicare totaling \$2,563.59 and contributed \$1,769.78 to the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System on Green's behalf.

Bus Driver Milton Waller terminated his employment with Lauderdale County in October 2016; however, he continued to receive direct deposits totaling \$4,459.18 through February 16, 2017. The School Department also paid the employer portion of Waller's Social Security and Medicare totaling \$341.14.

The director of schools first disclosed this activity to the Comptroller's Office in February 2017 and has stated his intention to implement improved controls to prevent this situation from happening again.

In June 2017, Devlyn Green was indicted by the Lauderdale County Grand Jury on one count of theft over \$10,000. Milton Waller was indicted for one count of theft over \$2,500.

"It's important that government entities follow a clear process whenever there is a separation of employment," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "All timesheets should also be reviewed to ensure they support payroll."

To view the special report online, got to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/la/SpecialReports.asp>

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