



**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
PALM BEACH COUNTY**

Sheryl G. Steckler  
Inspector General

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**Memorandum of Corrective Action**

**Date:** August 18, 2011

**To:** Chuck Cohen, Director, Palm Tran

**From:** Sheryl G. Steckler, Inspector General

**Re:** **OIG Correspondence #2011080004**  
**Melissa Siladke**  
**Executive Secretary**

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On August 5, 2011, you contacted the Office of Inspector General (OIG) regarding a possible theft within your department. You indicated that Melissa Siladke, while working in an official capacity as an Executive Secretary for Palm Tran, stole three toner cartridges that were originally intended for Palm Tran's use. Your response further indicated that similar toner cartridges were located on an EBay account belonging to "ASILADKE," and that Ms. Siladke's husband was identified as Anthony Siladke.

Based on the information you provided, this case was coordinated with the State Attorney's office for possible criminal violations. During the course of the investigation, Ms. Siladke admitted to stealing various equipment/supplies from Palm Tran over a three year period, all of which was valued at approximately \$11,196.45. Ms. Siladke further admitted to selling the items on various EBay accounts for profit.

On August 18, 2011, Ms. Siladke was arrested by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and charged with the following:

- Grand Theft - § 812.014(1)(a), F.S.
- Dealing in Stolen Property by Use of the Internet - § 812.0195(2), F.S.
- Official Misconduct – § 838.022(1)(b), F.S.
- Organized Scheme to Defraud – § 817.034(4)(a), F.S.

Immediate corrective personnel action was taken in that Ms. Siladke's employment was terminated on August 18, 2011.

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Based on the aforementioned criminal charges, the OIG will initiate an audit to determine the effectiveness of the current controls in place and whether or not such controls contributed to the length of time in which Ms. Siladke was able to steal equipment and/or supplies from Palm Tran.

Cc: Brad Merriman, Assistant County Administrator