

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



THOMAS J. SPOTA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Former Police Sgt. convicted of grand larceny charges, acquitted of hate crimes

Former Suffolk County police officer Scott Greene was found guilty today of two felony charges of grand larceny in the fourth degree, three counts of official misconduct and one count of petit larceny after a six day trial in Suffolk County court in Central Islip, Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota said.

The jury began deliberations Wednesday.

Greene was acquitted of six charges of grand larceny in the fourth degree as a hate crime.

Grand larceny in the fourth degree is a class "E" felony punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of one and one-third to four years in prison. The charge as a hate crime is a class "D" felony punishable by a maximum imprisonment of two and third to seven years.

State Supreme Court Justice Fernando Camacho ordered Greene, 52, of Shirley, remanded to the county jail without bail.

The former Suffolk County police patrol sergeant faces a second 60-count indictment containing 20 hate crime charges alleging he stole cash from Hispanic motorists who he targeted for traffic stops while on patrol.

"After hearing all of the available and admissible evidence, the jury determined that Scott Greene was a thief with a badge," District Attorney Spota said. "We are disappointed they did not believe Greene stole from his victims because of a belief or perception regarding their race, color, or national origin – as the hate crime statute requires. We respect their verdict. This defendant can no longer

victimize anyone because of his position as a police officer and we will recommend the maximum term of imprisonment at sentencing.”

Greene was arrested during a sting operation on Jan. 30, 2014 when surveillance cameras in a sting vehicle driven by a DA Squad Hispanic undercover detective recorded the defendant taking one hundred dollars cash from an envelope on the front seat of the car. Greene had pulled the vehicle over on Granny Road, a half-mile east of Mill Road in Coram.

A follow-up investigation by the district attorney’s office found more victims who identified Greene as the police officer who took money from them.

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