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State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BATON ROUGE -- Today, the State Inspector General's Office reported that its investigation into the activities of two employees of the LSU Health Sciences Center (LSUHSC) in New Orleans has resulted in the arrest of those two employees on charges related to the theft of some \$4,000 dollars worth of metal pipe fittings. Arrested were Thomas Bradley and Amelia Martin, both of New Orleans. The Inspector General's investigation revealed the two employees had been involved in stealing LSUHSC copper and brass fittings, which were then sold as scrap at New Orleans recycling centers. Mr. Bradley, an LSUHSC maintenance worker, had been employed there for 15 years. Ms. Martin, a warehouse supervisor, had worked at LSUHSC for 13 years.

Inspector General Stephen Street said: "This case came to our attention because an ordinary citizen saw something he thought was suspicious: a state employee selling to a recycling center an assortment of what appeared to be brand new pipe fittings. That citizen contacted our office about what he had seen, and we investigated to determine exactly what was going on."

The Inspector General's Office determined that Mr. Bradley had sold LSUHSC copper and brass fittings to local recycling centers four times during September, with the assistance of Ms. Martin.

Mr. Bradley was arrested October 4, 2010, and charged with felony and misdemeanor theft. Ms. Martin was arrested October 19, 2010, and charged with felony theft. The Inspector General's Office was assisted in the case by the Attorney General's Fugitive Task Force, which made the arrests. Mr. Bradley and Ms. Martin have been released on bail. Both have now been terminated from their employment at LSUHSC.

The Inspector General asks that anyone witnessing any suspicious activity by a state employee to please call his office on its toll-free number, 1-866-701-2549. Alternatively, the public may also send such information electronically by going to the Inspector General's website, oig.louisiana.gov.