



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

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For Immediate Release  
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**SUFFERN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SOCIAL SECURITY  
DISABILITY FRAUD**

James P. Fox, a retired New York City police officer from Suffern, pleaded guilty yesterday to Social Security disability fraud, a felony, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Fox, 58, admitted before U.S. Magistrate Judge Martin Goldberg in federal court in White Plains that he took \$150,316 in Social Security disability benefits that did not belong to him, said Herbert Hadad, a press officer for with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Fox told the court that he became a police officer in 1971 and left the force in 1980 with knee and back injuries, Hadad said.

In 1999 he took a job as a security guard in the Nyack school district, but continued to collect Social Security payments.

Gail Fleur, spokeswoman for the Nyack school district, said yesterday that she could not determine whether Fox still worked in the district because schools were closed.

It is illegal to collect Social Security disability payments if you make more than a specified maximum income. It was unclear how much money Fox made as a security guard.

He was represented by Patrick Burke, a Suffern attorney. Burke did not return a call yesterday seeking comment.

The government was represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anna Skotko.

Fox faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in jail, a fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss resulting from the crime, and three years of supervision after his release.

He must also make restitution of the \$150,316 to the government.

Sentencing is scheduled at 9 a.m. Nov. 13 before U.S. District Judge Stephen Robinson in White Plains.