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ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL: ILLINOIS GAMING BOARD EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul announced that an employee of the Illinois Gaming Board has been charged with lying to law enforcement and his supervisor about a car accident involving his state-issued vehicle.

Christopher Peterson, 49, of Chicago was charged in Cook County Circuit Court with obstruction of justice and disorderly conduct, Class 4 felonies punishable by one to three years in prison. Raoul's office alleges that Peterson, an employee of the Illinois Gaming Board, lied about an accident involving his state-issued vehicle. Peterson has pleaded not guilty, and his next court date is set for Dec. 14.

"State employees have an obligation to use state property responsibly, as these resources belong to people of Illinois," Raoul said. "My office will continue to partner with the Illinois State Police and other agencies to ensure that state employees are held accountable for misusing state resources, which unfortunately in the case also involved a crime."

While off-duty from his job at some time around Dec. 31, 2019, Peterson was involved in a one-car collision that damaged his state-issued vehicle. Peterson reported the accident to police, alleging the vehicle was side swiped while it was parked near his residence. He later provided the same explanation to his supervisor at the Illinois Gaming Board but then indicated that his wife had been involved in the accident. Finally, Peterson admitted to allegedly driving the vehicle while off-duty and striking a median on I-190.

The case was investigated by the Illinois State Police Internal Investigation Unit.

"Illinois State Police special agents take an oath to uphold public integrity," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. "The ISP is committed to ensuring that public employees are not above the law."

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Assistant Attorney General Haley C. Bookhout is handling the case for Raoul's Public Integrity Bureau.