Parish Employee Arrested for Malfeasance in Office

AMITE (*November 19, 2026*)- A Tangipahoa Parish Public Works employee has been arrested for stealing asphalt and directing his work crew to unload it at his home for him.

Demetrius Maryland, 60, was booked Thursday afternoon, November 19, on one count each of Malfeasance in Office and Misdemeanor Theft.

On Wednesday, November 18, a Tangipahoa Parish government official contacted TPSO to report just learning about the incident, which occurred on November 12. The investigation confirmed that Maryland took a parish vehicle loaded with asphalt, drove it to his home in Hammond with the work crew he supervised, and directed the crew to unload around $500 worth of the material onto his property. The workers did not know it was his home and believed it was an authorized job.

A warrant was issued for Maryland's arrest and he was taken into custody Thursday afternoon. Parish government terminated his employment immediately upon arrest.

"The misuse of public resources for personal gain is a serious violation of the public's trust and will not be tolerated under any circumstances," said Parish President Robby Miller, "Parish employees are entrusted with taxpayer-funded equipment, materials, and resources for one purpose: to serve the citizens of Tangipahoa Parish. The alleged theft of parish-owned cold mix asphalt and the unauthorized use of parish equipment on an employee's personal property represent a blatant disregard for that responsibility."

Miller added, "The actions of one individual do not reflect the dedication and integrity of the many hardworking parish employees who serve our citizens honorably every day."

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