



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### **Acadia Parish waste tire transporter arrested on waste tire fund violations**

**BATON ROUGE** – Today, investigators within the Criminal Investigation Division of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality arrested a waste tire transporter from Church Point on numerous felony counts related to the Louisiana Waste Tire Management Fund.

Rakeim Senegal, 20, of Church Point, a waste tire transporter employed by Reds Transport, is being charged with 58 counts of forgery; 58 counts of filing a false public record; one count of theft of approximately \$7,715.50; and one count of Waste Tire Fund fraud greater than \$500. Senegal allegedly inflated the number of eligible tires and/or forged the names of legitimate tire generators on manifests so that he could be reimbursed by Colt Tire, a waste tire processor. Senegal is the son of Majella Green, a waste transporter who was recently arrested by DEQ-CID on the same charges.

“DEQ will not tolerate this type of behavior,” said Vince Sagnibene, DEQ Undersecretary of Management & Finance. “This conduct is an insult to the program and the legitimate tire transporters who are doing it the right way. These individuals chose the wrong way.”

If convicted of the crime of forgery, Senegal faces possible imprisonment for not more than 10 years with or without hard labor, or a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both per count. If convicted of the crime of filing false public records, Senegal faces possible imprisonment for not more than five years with or without hard labor, or a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both per count. If convicted of the crime of theft, each faces possible imprisonment for not more than 10 years with or without hard labor, or a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both. If convicted of the crime of Waste Tire Fund Fraud and the fraudulent taking amounts to a value of five hundred dollars or more, Senegal faces imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for not more than ten years, or may be fined not more than three thousand dollars, or both.

The mission of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is to protect the environment and public health. Any persons with knowledge of any spills, releases, odors, fish kills, open burning, waste tires and any other types of environmental incidents may contact the department at 225-219-3640 or Toll Free 1-888-763-5424.

*An arrest does not constitute guilt in a criminal case and all subjects are presumed innocent. All evidence compiled during the investigation is presented to the area prosecutors who determine if formal charges are warranted.*