

# Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

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## **MEDIA RELEASE – DECEMBER 1, 2017**

### **PITTSTOWN COUPLE PLEADS GUILTY TO THEFT BY DECEPTION**

Hunterdon County Prosecutor Anthony P. Kearns, III, announced the guilty plea of Christopher Pennetta, age 52, and Catherine Pennetta, age 57, both of Pittstown.

According to Prosecutor Kearns, “On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Mr. and Mrs. Pennetta pled guilty before the Honorable Judge Angela F. Borkowski, JSC, to Theft by Deception, a third degree crime. The Pennetta’s will be sentenced in February. As part of the plea agreement the defendants have agreed to pay \$70,000 in restitution to Hunterdon County Social Services.”

Prosecutor Kearns added, “Christopher and Catherine Pennetta were arrested in October 2016, after an eight month investigation revealed they were responsible for the submission of misleading applications for social services and social security benefits since March of 2014, and failing to file and pay income taxes in 2014 and 2015. The Pennetta’s were also found to be operating a home improvement business without the proper registration in 2015 and 2016. Mr. and Mrs. Pennetta’s indictments were handed down by a Hunterdon Grand Jury in March of 2017.”

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