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City Employee Caught by Cameras Sentenced in Tampering Case

Harris County District Attorney Pat Lykos announced the successful prosecution of a city employee who altered his timesheet after visiting adult establishments and restaurants instead of assisting stranded motorists. David Wayne Richards, 52, pleaded guilty to the felony offense of tampering with a governmental record and was sentenced in the 177th District Court Thursday.

Judge Kevin Fine determined the punishment and sentenced Richards to 3 years deferred adjudication, a \$500 fine, 120 hours of community service, a letter of apology, and other standard terms and conditions.

Richards worked for the Metro Maps program and was responsible for locating and assisting motorists whose vehicles had broken down or stalled on area roadways. A local television camera crew surreptitiously followed Richards to determine if the program was successful. They were surprised to discover Richards visiting adult pornographic businesses while on official duty. An investigation by law enforcement commenced, and it was discovered that Richards made several false entries in his daily log to account for hours spent in the adult businesses and area restaurants. His daily log reflected that Richards was assisting motorists during the hours in question.

Assistant District Attorney Tiffany Dupree states, "Mr. Richards violated the public trust by his actions and has been held accountable."

Prosecutors from the Harris County District Attorney's Office Public Integrity Division worked in conjunction with officers from the Metro Transit Authority on the case.

District Attorney Pat Lykos commends KPRC Reporter Stephen Dean for his assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

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