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Public safety officer from Staten Island's Wagner College accused of stealing student mail

by STEPHANIE SLEPIAN

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — A Target gift card intended for a Wagner College student never made it out of the mail room — instead it was swiped by a public safety officer, authorities allege.

Records kept by Target show that Thomas Tibbs, 52, of Simonson Place, Port Richmond, checked the balance on the card from his home phone, court papers show.

Tibbs allegedly stole the card last month from the mail room on the Grymes Hill campus.

He was arrested Saturday and arraigned yesterday on charges of fourth-degree grand larceny and fourth-degree criminal possession of stolen property, according to court papers.

The United States Postal Inspection Service is also investigating the incident, a spokeswoman said.

He was terminated from his position, according to Wagner College spokesman Lee Manchester.

“The investigation is in the hands of the NYPD,” Manchester said. “We are cooperating and doing anything we can to assist them.”

Tibbs was released on his own recognizance and is due back in court on Aug. 16.

He could not immediately be reached for comment.