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Press Release

February 24, 2004

[MTA Headquarters](#)

IMMEDIATE

### MTA Police Arrest Man For MetroCard Theft

A 27 year old Bronx resident, James Barzola, was arrested Monday for stealing over \$35,000 worth of MetroCards from the Long Island Rail Road.

Barzola, an employee of Cap-Tech Inc., a company contracted by the LIRR to provide maintenance on automated ticket machines located at LIRR stations, was charged with four counts of grand larceny and four counts of possession of stolen property.

An investigation by MTA Police was initiated several months ago following a complaint by a LIRR supervisor reporting the theft of MetroCards. The MTA Police investigation revealed MetroCards were stolen from LIRR automated ticket machines on six separate occasions between June 2003 and February 2004.

Barzola was arrested and taken into custody by MTA Police after a surveillance of the automated ticket machines at Penn Station on Monday.

He will be arraigned at Manhattan Criminal Court.