



The City of New York
Department of Investigation
ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER



80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

Release #10-2013
nyc.gov/html/doi

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013**

**CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931**

FORMER FISCAL OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING FROM PUBLICLY-FUNDED NONPROFITS

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), issued the following statement on the guilty plea by CLEMENT GARDNER who admitted embezzling approximately \$560,000 in charitable assets from two nonprofits that have served the Bronx. GARDNER, 65, the former fiscal officer at Christian Community in Action Inc. (“CCIA”) and Christian Community Benevolent Association (“CCBA”) was charged in December 2012, and today he pleaded guilty to one count of Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, a class C felony. The case is being prosecuted by the office of New York State Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman. A copy of DOI’s findings can be found at the following link:

http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/downloads/pdf/dec%2012/pr30gardner_121012.pdf

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, “This defendant played a shell game with public funds, cheating the Bronx community and pocketing hundreds of thousands of dollars. Investigators from DOI and the state Attorney General pored through fiscal records to expose the money trail and put an end to the scheme.”

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked New York State Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman and HRA Commissioner Robert Doar and their staffs for their cooperation and assistance in this investigation.

Assistant Attorney General Simon Brandler was assigned to this case, and was assisted by Assistant Attorney General Wanda Perez-Maldonado, under the direction of William E. Schaeffer, Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau.

The above investigation was conducted by DOI’s Not-for-Profit / Vendor Fraud Unit.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. The agency investigates and refers for prosecution City employees and contractors engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities or unethical conduct. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City.

**DOI’s press releases can also be found at twitter.com/doinews
Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.**