

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

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

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013

## CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI

(212) 825-5931

Release #02-2013

nyc.gov/html/doi

## FORMER CITY COUNCILMAN LARRY SEABROOK SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON ON CORRUPTION OFFENSES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on the sentencing today of LARRY SEABROOK, 61, to five years in prison for fraudulently steering \$2 million in City Council discretionary funds and City contracts to non-profits he controlled that employed his friends and family. A jury convicted SEABROOK in July 2012 on wire fraud, mail fraud, and conspiracy charges. He was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Deborah A. Batts in federal court in Manhattan. DOI investigated the case, and the office of Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, prosecuted.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Larry Seabrook diverted hundreds of thousands of dollars from the public till into the pockets of his favored cronies. Today, he is a convicted felon, stripped of his City Council position, who must serve prison time. His sentence punctuates a powerful message that abusing government power to steal has serious consequences."

SEABROOK was ordered to pay \$619,715 in restitution and \$418,252 in forfeiture. He must surrender on March 8, 2013.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Preet Bharara, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and the dedicated team of investigators and prosecutors who worked on this case.

The team of DOI investigators on this case included Associate Commissioner Yuval Hibshoosh, Deputy Inspector General Laila Yu, Senior Investigative Auditor Maggie Xu, Special Investigator Katy Diaz-Espinal, and Investigative Auditor Calvin Lam.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Karl Metzner, Steve C. Lee, and Randall W. Jackson of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York were in charge of the prosecution.

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.