

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

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DOI STATEMENT ON PRISON SENTENCE FOR FDNY SUPERVISING INSPECTOR WHO PARTICIPATED IN MILLION-DOLLAR DAY CARE FRAUD

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced that CARLOS MONTOYA, a former Supervising Inspector with the New York City Fire Department ("FDNY"), was sentenced today to 30 months in federal prison for accepting tens of thousands of dollars in bribery in exchange for ignoring or minimizing fire safety violations at day care centers, providing fake documentation allowing day care centers to provide services to infants they otherwise would have been unable to provide, and assisting day cares in obtaining fraudulent licenses that increased the number of children for which they could provide services. MONTOYA, 55, pleaded guilty in February 2012 to the federal charge of accepting corrupt payments and he was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Paul G. Gardephe in Manhattan federal court. The office of Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, prosecuted the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This defendant chose tens of thousands of dollars in graft over his responsibility as a City fire inspector to protect the safety of needy children. Today, he has lost his City job and is a convicted felon sentenced to prison. This investigation uncovered a \$1 million day care fraud that has so far resulted in convictions of six City employees and eight day care operators, including this defendant. This disposition delivers the clear message that the City and its law enforcement partners will uncover corruption and protect the safety of infants and children in City-administered day care."

MONTOYA has been employed with the FDNY since March 1992 and was receiving an annual salary of approximately \$56,730 when he resigned in February 2012, shortly after his guilty plea.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Preet Bharara, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York; Salvatore J. Cassano, FDNY Commissioner; Dr. Thomas Farley, Commissioner of the City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH"); Robert D. LiMandri, Commissioner of the City Department of Buildings; Robert Doar, Commissioner of the City Department of Human Resources ("HRA"); and ACS Commissioner Ronald E. Richter, and their staffs, for their assistance in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of Inspector General for DOHMH, HRA, and ACS.

The Public Corruption Unit in the office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York prosecuted the case, specifically Assistant U.S. Attorneys Harris Fischman, Michael Bosworth, and Brent Wible.

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.

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