

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

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FDNY SUPERVISING INSPECTOR PLEADS GUILTY IN \$1 MILLION DAY CARE FRAUD AND BRIBERY SCHEME

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on today's guilty plea by a Supervising Inspector with the New York City Fire Department ("FDNY") for his role in a massive scheme to defraud the day care subsidy program, which is administered by New York City and subsidizes day care costs for low-income parents who work. CARLOS MONTOYA, 54, pleaded guilty to the federal charge of accepting corrupt payments before U.S. District Judge Paul G. Gardephe in Manhattan federal court and is scheduled to be sentenced on June 11, 2012. MONTOYA is one of 14 defendants who have pleaded guilty in this significant scheme. 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 City employee chose to ignore his commitment to New York City's needy parents and children, taking tens of thousands of dollars in cash bribes rather than inspect the City's day cares for potential safety violations. But as of today, he is a convicted felon facing possible prison time and the loss of his job with the Fire Department. This significant investigation has sent a powerful message of deterrence and underscored that DOI and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York are working together to ensure that public funds intended to help low-income New Yorkers are protected."

MONTOYA has been employed with the New York City Fire Department ("FDNY") since March 1992 and receives an annual salary of approximately \$56,730. He has been suspended since his arrest.

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 is prosecuting 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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