



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

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

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

DOI INVESTIGATION LEADS TO INDICTMENT OF CITY CORRECTION OFFICER ON CONTRABAND CHARGES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on the arrest of a City Department of Correction ("DOC") Officer formerly assigned to the Manhattan Detention Center ("MDC") on charges of using her cell phone to have conversations with an inmate in custody on Rikers Island and allowing the inmate to contact other inmates on the cell phone in October 2010. ROSALYN WILKES, 43, was charged by an indictment obtained by the office of New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., which is prosecuting the case. DOI investigated with DOC's Investigation Division.

WILKES was arrested today and charged with five counts of Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree, a class D felony. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "A cell phone in jail can become a dangerous tool, used to undermine safety and security. Correction officers who flout their professional duty, as this defendant is charged with doing, will face the serious consequences of arrest and prosecution. DOI investigators traced phone calls made between the defendant and inmates, and worked with DOC to uncover the facts and put a stop to the crime."

New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., said, "Correction Officers have enormous power and an equal responsibility to keep our jails safe, and our inmates secure. By violating basic rules of conduct, this defendant put her needs and the desires of inmates above the safety of her colleagues, the inmate population, and the public. I thank our partners at the Department of Investigation for their extensive work on this case."

WILKES has been employed by DOC as a Correction Officer since August 2004, was assigned to MDC, and receives an annual salary of approximately \$76,488. As a result of this investigation, WILKES was suspended for 15 days and placed on modified duty, with no inmate contact, and was reassigned to the Queens Detention Complex in Kew Gardens.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., and DOC Commissioner Dora B. Schriro and their staffs for their assistance and cooperation in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOC and DOC's Investigation Division.

Assistant District Attorney Charles Linehan is assigned to the prosecution of this case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Luke Rettler, Chief of the New York County District Attorney's Official Corruption Unit, and Assistant District Attorney Julio Cuevas, Deputy Chief of the Official Corruption Unit.

An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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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