

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

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2011

Release #46-2011 nyc.gov/html/doi

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## DOI ARRESTS FORMER CITY CORRECTION OFFICER ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT CHARGES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of a former Correction Officer with the City Department of Correction ("DOC") on charges of sexually abusing an inmate at the Robert N. Davoren Center ("RNDC") on Rikers Island. Under New York law, an inmate in a correctional facility is legally incapable of consenting to sexual activity with an employee or contractor providing services to inmates at the facility. DOI began investigating after it received an allegation the defendant was engaging in misconduct with an inmate. The defendant is charged in an indictment obtained by the office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This charged crime is disturbing conduct for any individual, especially a Correction Officer entrusted with safeguarding the City's jails."

JAMES DAVIS, 32, of Brooklyn, is charged with three counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the Third Degree, a class E felony, and three counts each of Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree, class A misdemeanors. Upon conviction, a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison and a class A misdemeanor by up to a year's incarceration. DAVIS was arraigned today in Bronx County Supreme Court and bail was set at \$10,000.

According to the charges outlined in the indictment, on two occasions in August 2010, the defendant engaged in criminal sexual conduct with an inmate at the RNDC.

DAVIS began working at DOC in February 2004 and immediately following the August 2010 incidents was placed on modified duty, in which he was prohibited from inmate contact. His employment was terminated by DOC in March 2011 following a hearing on unrelated disciplinary charges. His most recent base salary at DOC was approximately \$76,488.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson and DOC Commissioner Dora B. Schriro and their staffs for their assistance in this investigation.

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

Assistant District Attorney Michael O'Sullivan of the Bronx County District Attorney's Sex Crimes Unit is assigned to the prosecution.

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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