



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
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**DOI STATEMENT ON GUILTY PLEA OF FORMER MASTER ELECTRICIAN  
TO FILING A FALSE TAX RETURN AND FRAUDULENT LICENSE APPLICATION**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on today's guilty plea of JOHN MARI JR., 54, a former Licensed Master Electrician, who pleaded guilty to submitting a signed electrical license renewal application to the City Department of Buildings ("DOB") falsely indicating he was responsible for work performed under that license, when he sold the license to another individual for a monthly fee of \$2,000 and did not oversee the work. In addition, MARI JR. pleaded guilty to failing to report the fees he obtained for the license on his personal state income tax returns. The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced on April 29, 2011, to 51 weekends in prison, and will be ordered to pay \$22,180 in back taxes and a \$5,000 fine. The investigation was conducted jointly with the Office of Inspector General for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. The office of New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., prosecuted the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This former tradesman made a mockery of the City rules intended to ensure the safety of electrical work and is paying the price. He is now a convicted felon, lost his license, and faces prison time, showing that corrupting the City's regulatory process has serious consequences. I commend the investigators and prosecutors who worked hard to bring this case to this successful result."

MARI JR., of Staten Island, pleaded guilty to a charge of False Returns or Reports, Personal Income and Earnings Taxes, a class E felony under the state tax law. In addition, he pleaded guilty to a charge of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor, on which he was arrested in December 2010. DOB revoked his Master Electrician License the same month. DOI's press release on the arrest can be found at the following link: [http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/downloads/pdf/pr85mari\\_120710.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/downloads/pdf/pr85mari_120710.pdf).

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., Robert E. Van Etten, Inspector General for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Office, DOB Commissioner Robert D. LiMandri, and their staffs, for their assistance in this investigation.

Assistant District Attorney Elyse Ruzow of the New York County District Attorney's Office, under the direction of Michael Scotto, Chief of the District Attorney's Rackets Bureau, prosecuted the case.

*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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To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.**