

The City of New York Department of Investigation ROSE GILL HEARN

COMMISSIONER

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## DOI ARRESTS HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION EMPLOYEE ON CHARGES OF SEXUALLY ABUSING A TEENAGE GIRL

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of a City Human Resources Administration ("HRA") Principal Administrative Associate on charges of sexually touching a teenage girl, soliciting and displaying sexually suggestive photos of her, and texting explicit photos of himself to the teenager between July 2010 and March 2011. The defendant and victim, who was not an HRA client, were acquaintances. DOI investigated after receiving allegations late last week that the defendant possessed explicit photos of a girl on his personal cell phone. The office of New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "The criminal conduct charged here is profoundly disturbing and breaches the standards required of every law-abiding adult and City employee. As soon as the matter came to our attention, DOI moved quickly to investigate and end the charged abuse."

BRIAN ST. JUST, 35, of the Bronx, was arrested late yesterday and charged early today with Promoting a Sexual Performance by a Child, a class D felony, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, a class A misdemeanor, and Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree, a class B misdemeanor. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison, a class A misdemeanor by up to a year's incarceration, and a class B misdemeanor by up to three months in jail. ST. JUST was arraigned today in Manhattan Criminal Court, bail was set at \$25,000 by bond or \$5,000 cash, and an order of protection was issued. He is scheduled to return to court on Friday, April 1, 2011.

ST. JUST began employment at HRA in April 1996 and is assigned to HRA's Business Link on W. 34<sup>th</sup> St., Manhattan, which prepares HRA clients for jobs. He receives an annual salary of approximately \$45,978. ST. JUST was suspended without pay today.

DOI Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., and HRA Commissioner Robert Doar, and their staffs, for their assistance and cooperation in this investigation.

DOI's Office of Inspector General for HRA and DOI's NYPD Squad of Detectives conducted the investigation.

Assistant District Attorney Carolina Holderness of the New York County District Attorney's Office is assigned to the prosecution of the case.

A criminal complaint 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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