



The City of New York
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**GUILTY VERDICTS IN 2006 USE OF FORCE COVER UP BY
TWO HIGH-RANKING CORRECTION SUPERVISORS**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on the convictions today of former City Department of Correction ("DOC") Assistant Deputy Warden GAIL LEWIS and current Captain SHERMAN GRAHAM on multiple false filing offenses. According to the charges, in October 2006, GRAHAM concealed a use of force incident by filing a false Use of Force Report and instructing 14 new recruits to make similar false reports about the incident. Graham's immediate supervisor, LEWIS, also filed a false report. DOI's investigation began after it received a tip following an anti-corruption lecture DOI conducted for new DOC recruits on the eve of their graduation from the Correction Academy. The office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson obtained the indictment and prosecuted these cases.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "There is no room in the City's jails for supervisors who betray the public's trust by misrepresenting the truth and concealing assaults in the City's jails. Today, these defendants are being held to account for trying to cover up their roles in an inmate assault and now stand convicted felons. DOI is committed to exposing and stopping this type of corruption, which undermines the safety and integrity of the City's jails. I commend the individuals who stepped forward to assist DOI, and the investigators and prosecutors who worked toward this successful prosecution."

A jury found GRAHAM, 42, and LEWIS, 49, guilty of multiple counts of Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, and Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, class E felonies, and Official Misconduct, a class A misdemeanor.

GRAHAM receives an annual salary of approximately \$94,300, and is prohibited from inmate contact. With today's conviction, DOC is seeking GRAHAM's termination. LEWIS retired from DOC in December 2009 and at that time was receiving an annual salary of approximately \$104,081.

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

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

Assistant District Attorneys Larry Piergrossi and Ann Lee of the Bronx District Attorney's Rackets Bureau were assigned to the prosecution, under the supervision of Chief of the Rackets Bureau, Assistant District Attorney Stuart Levy, and Chief of the Investigations Divisions Thomas Leahy.

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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