



The City of New York
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**DOI STATEMENT ON TWO CITY CORRECTION OFFICERS' GUILTY PLEAS TODAY
TO AN ASSAULT CONSPIRACY THAT INVOLVED AN INMATE'S DEATH**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement today on the guilty pleas of two City Correction Officers to felony assault charges as part of a conspiracy known as "The Program" that led to the death of an 18-year-old inmate in October 2008. Correction Officer MICHAEL MCKIE, 33, pleaded guilty to Assault in the Second Degree, and Correction Officer KHALID NELSON, 37, pleaded guilty to Attempted Assault in the Second Degree before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Joseph Dawson. Under their plea agreements, MCKIE and NELSON face sentences of, respectively, two years and one year in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for January 17, 2012. The office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson prosecuted the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Two City Correction Officers who oversaw a shadow regime of intimidation and violence in our City adolescent jail facility have now admitted their guilt. Fittingly, they face prison sentences themselves. As inmates, they will appreciate the importance of Correction Officers' maintaining integrity and safety in the City jails. I want to thank District Attorney Robert Johnson's office, the NYPD, and the DOI investigators who worked tirelessly to bring justice to this tragic matter."

MCKIE and NELSON each began employment with DOC in 2004 and received annual base salaries of \$73,546. Both have been suspended without pay since their arrests in January 2009.

Charges are pending against a third City Correction Officer and seven inmates. Five inmates have pleaded guilty.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, NYPD Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly, and DOC Commissioner Dora B. Schriro, and their staffs, for their hard work in this case.

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

Assistant District Attorneys James Goward, Cassandra Abodeely, and Maureen Grosdidier of the Bronx County District Attorney's Office are assigned to the prosecution of these cases under the supervision of Stuart Levy, Chief of the Rackets Bureau, and Tom Leahy, Chief of the Investigations Division.

An indictment is an accusation. Defendants are 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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