



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

**STATEMENT FROM DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATION COMMISSIONER
ROSE GILL HEARN**

Regarding today's sentencing of Frank Sgambati, a former New York City Department of Buildings inspector.

Frank Sgambati is the first defendant to be sentenced among the 19 former DOB plumbing inspectors arrested last Summer on corruption charges. Sgambati and the other defendants were charged with extortion in connection with plumbing and gas line inspections. The impact of this widespread corruption was so devastating that Mayor Bloomberg and Buildings Commissioner Patricia Lancaster wrote letters to the Court about the harm to DOB and the City.

In announcing the sentence today Judge Sterling Johnson indicated that he took into account the harm to the City as discussed in the letter from Mayor Bloomberg. Submission of such a letter from the Mayor is not done regularly and was intended to convey severity of the offense committed by this former City employee. We think the sentence of 8 months and \$5,000 fine was just and properly reflects the severity of the conduct. The City feels that individuals who engage in this conduct have to learn there are consequences. We are pleased with this sentence. We hope this sentence serves as a deterrent to others who would engage in this kind of corrupt conduct.