

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN

COMMISSIONER

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## STATEMENT FROM DOI REGARDING ARREST OF CITY SUBCONTRACTOR CHARGED WITH ILLEGALLY DUMPING CONTAMINATED WASTE AND FORGING RECEIPTS TO PROVE HE HAD PROPERLY DISPOSED OF THE WASTE

JERRY BASS, a City subcontractor, has been arrested for allegedly illegally dumping or selling more than 1,000 tons of waste as 'clean fill' to various entities, including a Nassau County golf course and Queens homeowners, and then billing the City approximately \$75,000 for disposing the waste. The City paid the defendant \$10,000 before the fraud was discovered.

BASS, 39, of Valley Stream, is being held pending arraignment on charges of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, Attempted Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, Forgery in the Second Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree, Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, Defrauding the Government, Scheme to Defraud in the Second Degree, Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, Prohibited Disposal and Unlawful Operation of a Business for Removal of Trade Waste. If convicted, he faces up to seven years in prison and fines of up to \$22,500 on each environmental violation. BASS is president of B & B Trucking, which also has been charged with the scheme and faces fines of up to twice the amount of the illegal gains.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Today's charges indicate that Mr. Bass tried another scheme against the City, and in doing so, not only ripped off the City and defrauded homeowners but may have harmed the environment by improperly disposing waste. The City pays a premium to protect the environment and will continue to make every effort to make sure that improper billing and dumping is prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. I thank the DEP employees who reported this alleged misconduct to DOI."

If you would like more information about today's charges or would like a copy of an October press release DOI issued about Mr. BASS in regard to another matter, please contact the DOI press office at (212) 825-5931.

Today's investigation was conducted jointly by DOI's Inspector General for DEP John Kantor and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Michael Carroll and Assistant Inspector General Michael Healey, and the DEP Police, Detective Division. They were assisted by the New York City Business Integrity Commission. The Office of Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown is prosecuting the case. Assistant District Attorney Jason Garelick of the Economic and Environmental Crimes Bureau is handling the matter.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the city, call DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.