

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN COMMISSIONER

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FORMER CITY WORKER PLEADS GUILTY TO HARASSMENT -- admits to wrongfully telling civilians they would be investigated --

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner for the New York City Department of Investigation, announced today the successful conclusion of the agency's investigation of Daniel Carrique, a former employee of the Department of Citywide Administrative Services.

Mr. Carrique, 56, of Staten Island, pleaded guilty today in New York State Supreme Court on Staten Island to two counts of harassment, which are violations, and received a conditional discharge.

Mr. Carrique admitted that between November 17, 2001 and November 30, 2001 he made a number of phone calls to a New Jersey Toys R Us office in order to harass and annoy employees, as well as influence an investigation into an incident that occurred at a Toys R Us store on Staten Island that involved an acquaintance, who is a NYPD officer. Mr. Carrique also stated today that he told Toys R Us employees he was investigating the company's sales practices on Staten Island, that he misrepresented his City position, and that he made the phone calls with no legitimate purpose. Additionally, Mr. Carrique admitted to making these phone calls from an office in Staten Island Borough Hall or from a cell phone provided to him for job-related duties.

"Mr. Carrique's guilty plea affirms the fact that he abused and harassed the very citizens City employees are supposed to serve, protect and assist. By misrepresenting his position and harassing individuals, he has damaged the credibility of hard-working public servants everywhere," said DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn.

Mr. Carrique was arrested on harassment and criminal impersonation charges in October 2002. He was fired from DCAS in March 2003. The police officer, Lisa Assante, was arrested May 29, 2003 and charged with criminal possession of a forged instrument, falsely reporting an incident and attempted petit larceny. Her prosecution is pending.

Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked DCAS Commissioner Martha K. Hirst for her assistance and cooperation with this investigation. This case was investigated by DOI's Inspector General for DCAS, Robert Joyce and Assistant Inspector General Mary Kozlow. It was prosecuted by Edward Donlon and Adam Silberlight, Assistant District Attorneys in the office of Staten Island D.A. William L. Murphy. Assistance was also provided by the Staten Island D.A. Detective Squad and the NYPD Internal Affairs Bureau.

Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.