



Release #056-99

**RIKERS ISLAND DIETARY AIDE CHARGED  
WITH ◦SEXUAL◦ EXTORTION OF CORRECTION OFFICER**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1999 -- EDWARD J. KURIANSKY, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), and Queens District Attorney RICHARD A. BROWN today announced the felony arrest of LISA JONES, a Department of Correction (DOC) dietary aide assigned to the West Facility on Rikers Island, for extorting \$550 from a Correction Officer (CO) she dated, by threatening to file a criminal complaint falsely accusing him of raping her.

On April 9, 1999, the Queens District Attorney's Office notified DOI that a CO had filed a report stating that the defendant JONES had falsely accused him of drugging her for the express purpose of having sexual intercourse. Interviewed the following day by DOI investigators, the CO said that, on April 1, 1999, JONES had asked him for a ride home from work that night and that he had agreed. After having drinks at her Queens residence, JONES allegedly suggested that they go to a discotheque in Manhattan, where they remained until early the next morning. When they arrived back at the defendant's residence, she allegedly invited the CO to come sleep in her bed, after which they engaged in consensual sexual intercourse. Immediately afterwards, according to the CO, Jones accused the officer of having put drugs in her drink which caused her to have sex with him. Two days later, she allegedly left a message on the CO's answering machine, falsely indicating that she had taken a blood test and was thinking of going to the authorities, but wanted to speak with him first.

According to the felony complaint, between April 1 and August 31, 1999, JONES extorted a total of \$550 from the CO by instilling in him a fear that if he did not pay the money to her, she would accuse him of rape and file criminal charges against him.

Commissioner Kuriansky and Queens District Attorney Brown expressed their sincere appreciation to Audio and Video Forensic Enhancement Specialist Jack Hunter, of the United States Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, for his assistance, and to DOC Commissioner Bernard B. Kerik and his staff for their cooperation during the course of the investigation.

JONES, 30, of Briarwood, Queens, has been employed by the Department of Correction as a dietary aide since September 19, 1989, and earns \$22,989 annually. She has been suspended without pay.

JONES was charged with Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree (by extortion), a Class E felony punishable by up to 4 years in prison.

The investigation was conducted by DOI Assistant Commissioner and Inspector General for DOC Michael Caruso and members of his staff, including Acting Deputy Inspector General Valerie Brown, Supervising

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Investigator Toni R. Bellamy, and Special Investigator Lawrence McGugins.

Assistant Queens District Attorney Robert Ciesla is handling the prosecution under the direction of Assistant District Attorney James Liander, Deputy Chief of District Attorney Brown's Integrity Bureau, which is supervised by Assistant District Attorney Vincent J. Carroll and Executive Assistant District Attorney Robert D. Alexander.

Members of the public are reminded that a complaint is merely an accusation and is not evidence of guilt. Every defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.