



Department of Investigation

Press Release

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PARKS EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH SELLING COCAINE

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), today announced the felony arrest of BRYANT ADAMS for allegedly selling cocaine to a DOI undercover officer acting as a gym patron at the 59th Street Recreation Center in Manhattan. The arrest took place at W. 133rd St. near Seventh Ave. Drug sales did not occur on Parks property.

On two separate occasions, on August 28, 2002 and November 7, 2002, Adams sold 15 grams of cocaine worth \$420 to the DOI undercover officer, said Gill Hearn. DOI began its investigation in August 2001 after a confidential informant claimed Adams was selling drugs to employees at the 59th Street Recreation Center.

Adams, 27, of Harlem, has worked for the Parks Department since July 1993. He is a playground associate, responsible for overseeing the day camp program during summer months, and earns \$13.49 an hour.

"The sale of drugs in a city facility used on a daily basis by kids is terrible," said Commissioner Gill Hearn. "Drug use and drug sales will not be tolerated."

Commissioner Gill Hearn expressed her sincere appreciation to Department of Parks & Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe and First Deputy Commissioner Liam Kavanaugh for their assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

"Parks and Recreation has worked with DOI on this case and others over the years to expose and prosecute employee corruption and criminal acts," said Commissioner Benepe. "We will continue to collaborate with DOI and other law enforcement agencies to ensure that Parks' facilities are safe and free of drugs and drug sales."

The investigation was conducted by Vincent E. Green, DOI's Assistant Commissioner for DOF, Theresa Land-Latta, DOI's Deputy Inspector, Pamela Woolbright, Assistant Inspector General, and Lewis Santoni, Confidential Investigator.

The office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case. Assistant District Attorney Ty Hughes will handle the case. The Prosecutor's office is still determining the charges that will be filed.

Criminal complaints are merely an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.