



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation  
ROSE GILL HEARN  
COMMISSIONER

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**DOI ARRESTS CITY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR ON EXTORTION CHARGES**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of an Associate Highway and Sewer Inspector with the City Department of Transportation ("DOT") on charges that on two occasions this month the defendant solicited money from employees of two businesses in Brooklyn by threatening to issue summonses for alleged violations on sidewalks. DOI began its investigation earlier this month based on a complaint referred by the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"). The office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Any employee who abuses his or her position to shake down New Yorkers has no place in any City agency and should expect to be arrested and prosecuted. DOI moved swiftly to investigate and stop this charged wrongdoing."

KENRICK FORDE, 48, of Jamaica, Queens, was charged late today with Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, by extortion, a class C felony; Bribe Receiving in the Third Degree, a class D felony; and Official Misconduct, a class A misdemeanor, and with Attempted Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, by extortion, a class D felony; Attempted Bribe Receiving in the Third Degree, a class E felony, and Official Misconduct. Upon conviction, a class C felony is punishable by up to 15 years in prison, a class D felony by up to seven years in prison, a class E felony by up to four years in prison, and a class A misdemeanor by up to a year's incarceration.

FORDE has been employed by DOT since January 1990, is currently assigned to the Highway Inspections and Quality Assurance unit on Water Street in Manhattan, and receives an annual salary of approximately \$60,846. DOT suspended FORDE today.

According to the criminal complaint, on March 1, 2010, FORDE solicited and received money from employees of a service garage to refrain from issuing a \$450 summons for a vehicle parked on a sidewalk outside the business on Van Siclen Avenue in Brooklyn. FORDE was observed driving the DOT vehicle assigned to him and was seen on the garage's surveillance video. On March 19, 2010, FORDE approached a man painting the outside of a store on Fulton Street in Brooklyn and threatened to issue a summons for a ladder on a sidewalk unless he was given money. FORDE was observed driving the DOT vehicle assigned to him.

DOI Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan, NYPD Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly, and Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes and their staffs, including Assistant District Attorney Damani Sims, for their assistance in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of Inspector General for DOT.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

*DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. The agency investigates and refers for prosecution City employees and contractors engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities or unethical conduct. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City.*

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