

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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DOI ARRESTS FORMER EMPLOYEE OF THE NEW YORK CITY ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES ("ACS") ON CHARGES OF MISREPRESENTING HER CITIZENSHIP ON HER EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of ANALEE VILLANUEVA, a former Child Protective Specialist at the Administration for Children's Services ("ACS"), for submitting fraudulent documents when she applied to work at ACS in August 2001.

VILLANUEVA, 37, has been charged with two counts each of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree and Forgery in the Second Degree, which are class D felonies, and Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, a class E felony. If convicted, she faces up to seven years in prison.

DOI began an investigation after receiving a complaint in January 2008 from the New York City Office of Payroll Administration ("OPA") indicating that VILLANUEVA was never issued the social security number that appears in her ACS personnel file.

According to the criminal complaint and DOI's investigation, VILLANUEVA submitted the fraudulent social security number to ACS when she applied for employment in August 2001. DOI's investigators checked with the Social Security Administration and found that the social security number VILLANUEVA submitted was an invalid number. DOI's investigation also revealed that VILLANUEVA submitted a fraudulent resident alien card to ACS when she applied for employment with ACS. DOI investigators confirmed with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement that the resident alien card VILLANUEVA submitted belongs to someone else.

VILLANUEVA, a resident of the Bronx, was a Child Protective Specialist who was assigned to ACS in Manhattan and earned approximately \$45,800 annually. As a result of the investigation, VILLANUEVA resigned on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, from her position. VILLANEUVA had been employed by ACS since August 2001 and became a U.S. citizen in June 2007.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Intentionally fabricating information on City employment documents is a crime. The charges against this individual are troubling not only because she is accused of misrepresenting her citizenship but also because she betrayed the standard the City expects of those who work with children and families in need. DOI is committed to

uncovering this type of fraud. Individuals who engage in this type of criminal conduct should know that they will be caught and face serious penalties."

Commissioner Gill Hearn expressed her appreciation to OPA Executive Director Joel Bondy and members of his staff for bringing this matter to the attention of DOI.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for ACS Pat Russo, Counsel to the Inspector General Jennifer Fiellman and Chief Investigator Anthony DeLeo, under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner Paul Balukas.

Assistant District Attorney Robert Kennedy from the Office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are 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.

Get the worms out of the Big Apple.

To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.