



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI ARRESTS FORMER DCAS INTERN FOR MAIL FRAUD

-- He stole the identity of a Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Parks & Recreation to obtain a student loan --

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the felony arrest of TYRONE RILEY, a former college intern with the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS), for allegedly submitting falsified promissory notes for \$32,000 in career training loans from the SLM Corporation, or Sallie Mae, which provides federally guaranteed student loans.

RILEY, 44, of Brooklyn, will be charged with Federal Mail Fraud. If convicted, he faces up to 20 years in prison.

DOI's investigation began after a Deputy Commissioner for the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation reported that she was a victim of identity theft. The Deputy Commissioner told DOI that while she was obtaining a mortgage for a home she learned from a credit reporting agency that she was listed as a co-signer on several loans to RILEY that totaled \$32,000. The Deputy Commissioner informed DOI that she did not know RILEY and never co-signed any promissory notes for him. In 2003, RILEY identified the Deputy Commissioner by name as a co-borrower for loans obtained to pay tuition for New York Film Academy. The documents bore the Deputy Commissioner's forged signature. The Deputy Commissioner's Social Security number was also submitted.

Commissioner Gill Hearn urged New Yorkers to protect themselves as much as possible against identity theft by safeguarding personal information. Easy ways to protect yourself: 1) Each year order your credit report from the three credit bureaus and check for fraudulent activity; 2) Send a letter to each of the credit agencies directing them not to issue credit in your name without contacting you first; 3) Shred all documents that contain your personal identification; and 4) Do not use your Social Security number as a password. To obtain a copy of the DOI brochure, "Preventing Identity Theft," visit <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/html/identity.html>.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Department of Parks and Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe, DCAS Commissioner Martha K. Hirst and members of their staff, for their assistance and cooperation in this case. This investigation was conducted by DOI Assistant Commissioner Vincent E. Green, and members of his staff including, Deputy Inspector General Theresa Land-Latta, First Assistant Inspector General Jeffrey Dolcimascolo, and Special Investigator Pete Zaleski. Also assisting with this matter was FBI Special Agent in Charge Fredrick Snellings and Special Agent John Sheehy.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York is handling the case, with Assistant United States Attorney Christopher Garcia prosecuting. Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked the United States' Attorney's for their assistance.

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

***Get the worms out of the Big Apple.
To make complaints about someone ripping off the city, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.***