

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN COMMISSIONER

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DOI ARRESTS FORMER EMPLOYEE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR SUBMITTING BOGUS DOCTOR'S NOTES -- He obtained \$1,042.84 for sick time to which he wasn't entitled --

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of BRENDAN PHILLIPS yesterday for allegedly submitting eight forged doctor's notes to collect \$1,042.84 in sick pay for 9 days and 3 hours off from his job as a City Custodial Assistant with the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS).

PHILLIPS, 25, of Brooklyn, will be charged with seven counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree. If convicted, he faces up to seven years in prison.

DOI began its investigation after DCAS reported concerns that Phillips may have submitted a false doctor's note. DOI's investigation revealed that PHILLIPS had obtained an outdated piece of letterhead from a hospital in Brooklyn and used that letterhead to falsely create doctor's notes to submit with his requests to use sick leave for days off with pay. PHILLIPS forged the name of a doctor who worked at that hospital, even though he was not a patient of that doctor and had never received any medical treatment on the dates indicated on the forged doctor's notes. The investigation revealed that PHILLIPS submitted a total of eight forged doctor's notes between July 2004 and September 2005. PHILLIPS admitted his conduct in an interview with DOI investigators. PHILLIPS was terminated from his job at DCAS on January 5, 2006.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This defendant is the third City employee DOI has arrested recently for forging doctor's notes. These defendants would be wise to learn that pretending to be sick is child's play, and forging documents is an adult matter with serious consequences that include jail time."

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DCAS Commissioner Martha Hirst and members of her staff their assistance and cooperation during the investigation. In addition, Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked the members of the Manhattan District Attorney's Office Detective Squad for their assistance with the arrest.

The investigation was conducted by Assistant Commissioner and DCAS Inspector General Robert Joyce and members of his staff, including Investigator Avastie Satyacharran. The Office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting this case. Assistant District Attorney Lauren Littman is handling the matter, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Leroy Frazer of the DA's Special Prosecution Bureau.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the city, call DOI directly at (212)825-5959.