

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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STATEMENT FROM DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATION COMMISSIONER ROSE GILL HEARN REGARDING A FORMER CITY CONTRACTOR'S GUILTY PLEA

ALLAN J. FINE, former Executive Director of Etna Home Attendant Service Corporation, pled guilty this afternoon before United States District Judge Kenneth M. Karas to charges that he embezzled approximately \$665,780 from Etna from approximately 1997 through November 2001. Etna, a private, not-for-profit organization in the Bronx, had a contract with the New York City Human Resources Administration (HRA) to provide home health care services to elderly and disabled individuals eligible for Medicaid. All of Etna's funding was provided by federal, state and local governments. According to the Indictment, FINE had sole control over Etna's bank accounts and wrote approximately \$485,500 in checks to himself and deposited them into his personal checking account. The indictment also alleged that he wrote \$180,280 in checks payable to All City Corporate Transportation Inc., a car service, to pay for services provided to his former wife. He is expected to be sentenced on September 16, 2005.

This defendant used his inside access to line his own pockets with taxpayers' dollars that were supposed to be applied to medical care for elderly and disabled patients. While no clients went without medical care, this conduct is all the more appalling when put in the context of soaring health care costs and looming cuts in Medicaid funding. DOI will seek restitution for every nickel taken by the defendant.

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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