



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**DOI ARRESTS THREE FDNY EMS MEMBERS, AND ONE FORMER MEMBER,  
FOR ALLEGEDLY SUBMITTING FRAUDULENT MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION FORMS**  
*-- The actions cost the City an estimated \$4,300--*

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI) announced today the arrest of four individuals for allegedly submitting fraudulent Civilian Medical Documentation Forms (CMDFs) to the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) to excuse their absences from work. The four arrested are: CHARLES MOTTO, an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) employed by the FDNY; ROSA RIVERA, an EMT with the FDNY; WINSLEY JULIEN, a Paramedic with the FDNY; and LUIS ORTIZ, JR., a former paramedic with the FDNY.

In the summer of 2006, a FDNY Emergency Medical Service (EMS) supervisor noticed a suspicious CMDF and called DOI, which then conducted a Citywide audit of medical leave within EMS. As a result of that investigation, these four individuals from EMS were each arrested and charged with Forgery in the Second Degree, a class D felony; Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a class D felony; Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, a class E felony; and Official Misconduct, a class A misdemeanor. If convicted, each faces up to seven years in prison.

Commissioner Gill Hearn said, "As these allegations show, these individuals thought they would try and catch some free time on the City's dime. But DOI investigators uncovered their schemes and will continue working to root out this type of criminal behavior. City employees need to know that forging civilian medical documentation forms to garner time off isn't just unacceptable conduct, it's against the law."

The DOI investigation found the following:

- CHARLES MOTTO, 43, of the Bronx, has been an EMT with the FDNY since 1988 and earns an annual salary of \$41,162. In 2005, MOTTO gave his supervisor three completed FDNY CMDFs that excused his absences from seven scheduled days of work. Signatures, stamps, and license numbers of doctors verifying that MOTTO was not able to carry out his duties at work due to illness were present on the CMDFs. A DOI investigation found that MOTTO never visited the doctors and the doctors never signed the forms. In addition, MOTTO supplied at least one of his co-workers a photocopy of a CMDF that already had the signature and physician number of a doctor on it. As a result of the fraudulent medical forms submitted, the employee wrongfully received salary benefits of an estimated \$1,268.

- LUIS ORTIZ, 32, of the Bronx, was a paramedic from October 1999 through May 2006 and earned a salary of \$47,126. He currently is an EMT with TransCare, a private ambulance service. During 2004 and 2006, when he was employed as an EMT with the FDNY, ORTIZ gave his supervisor five completed CMDFs in which he claimed he was unable to work for six days because of illness. Portions of the forms were allegedly signed by ORTIZ's doctors, verifying that he was sick and claiming he visited his doctor's office when he missed work. DOI's investigation revealed that ORTIZ was not at the doctor's office on those dates and that the doctor's written diagnoses and signatures were forged. As a result of the fraudulent medical forms submitted, the employee wrongfully received salary benefits of an estimated \$1,200.
- ROSA RIVERA, 38, of the Bronx, has been an EMT with the FDNY since October 1999 and currently is in paramedic training with the FDNY. She earns a salary of \$41,162. During 2005, RIVERA gave her supervisor four completed CMDFs in which she claimed illnesses prevented her from working for four days. DOI's investigation revealed that RIVERA was able to obtain doctors' stamps from the medical facility in which a family member was treated and where she used to work as an office manager. The investigation also revealed that RIVERA provided falsified documentation to ORTIZ for his use. As a result of the fraudulent medical forms submitted, the employee wrongfully received salary benefits of an estimated \$631.
- WINSLEY JULIEN, 44, of Tobyhanna, Penn., has been employed by EMS since 1999 and is currently a paramedic. He earns a salary of \$50,996. During 2005, JULIEN gave his supervisor six completed CMDFs that excused his absences from six days of work. Signatures, stamps, and physician numbers of a doctor verifying that JULIEN was not able to carry out his duties at work due to illness were present on the CMDFs. The DOI investigation revealed that JULIEN legitimately went to the doctor once but then photocopied the form for future use. As a result of the fraudulent medical forms submitted, the employee wrongfully received salary benefits of an estimated \$1,249.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scopetta and his staff for their assistance and cooperation in this case and the Bronx District Attorney Squad.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for FDNY. The Office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson 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.***