

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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## DOI STATEMENT ON ARREST OF FORMER NYC-TV EXECUTIVE AND A PRIVATE BUSINESS OWNER FOR CONSPIRING TO DEFRAUD NYC-TV OF TENS-OF-THOUSANDS IN PRODUCTION FEES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement regarding today's arrest of TREVOR SCOTLAND, former Chief Operating Officer ("COO") of NYC-TV, and VINCENT R. TAYLOR, owner of VRT Multimedia, Inc. They are charged with conspiring to defraud the City of more than \$60,000 by diverting to VRT Multimedia payments from advertisers that should have gone to NYC-TV for production work. The investigation found that between March 2007 and April 2008, SCOTLAND, 38, and TAYLOR, 50, split the diverted funds, with SCOTLAND receiving approximately 80 percent and TAYLOR receiving approximately 20 percent, according to the charges.

NYC-TV is a division of the City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications ("DOITT"). SCOTLAND, of Brooklyn, was employed with NYC-TV since April 2004, and when he resigned as the NYC-TV's COO on March 13, 2009, he was receiving an annual salary of approximately \$99,185.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "These charges describe an avaricious scheme by two individuals to skim more than \$60,000 in fees from a City-operated television station. Most troubling is that the COO, instead of protecting his station's and the City's interests, is charged with exploiting his executive position to line his own pockets. But DOI investigators exposed the scheme and worked with federal prosecutors to hold those involved accountable. And we are working with the City's Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications to strengthen internal controls at the television station to ensure this kind of corruption ends here."

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Lev L. Dassin, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and DOITT Commissioner Paul J. Cosgrave and their staffs for their assistance on this investigation.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is 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.

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