

The City of New York Department of Investigation ROSE GILL HEARN

COMMISSIONER

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FORMER CITY CORRECTION CAPTAIN GUILTY IN \$53,000 HOUSING FRAUD UNCOVERED BY DOI INVESTIGATION

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement regarding the conviction today of former City Department of Correction ("DOC") Captain CLARENCE MCGANN, and his live-in companion, MARIA TORRES, for a \$53,000 Section 8 housing fraud. The jury verdict was announced late today in the courtroom of Richmond County Supreme Court Justice Stephen J. Rooney. MCGANN, 55, of Staten Island, was found guilty of Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, a class C felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison, and TORRES, 47, also of Staten Island, was found guilty of three counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a class E felony, punishable by up to four years in prison. DOI investigated the case and the office of Richmond County District Attorney Daniel M. Donovan, Jr., prosecuted it.

DOI's release on the arrest can be found at the link below: http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/downloads/pdf/pr35mcgann_torres_42209.pdf.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This former Correction Captain left his highly paid City position in disgrace and now stands convicted of a serious crime for abusing the subsidized housing program. Housing fraud is a no-win proposition that has a devastating impact on poor families who need housing and, as this conviction shows, on the selfish individuals who manipulate the system for personal gain. DOI congratulates District Attorney Donovan and Assistant District Attorney Jeffrey Curiale on this successful prosecution and thanks them for working with DOI on this important case."

McGann was employed with DOC from December 1984 and was receiving an annual salary of approximately \$97, 312 at the time he left his position in July 2009 after his arrest in this case.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Richmond County District Attorney Daniel M. Donovan, Jr., and NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea and their staffs for their assistance on this case.

Assistant District Attorney Jeffrey Curiale of the Richmond County District Attorney's Office prosecuted the case.

This case was investigated by DOI's Office of Inspector General for NYCHA, including Inspector General Kelvin Jeremiah, Deputy Inspector General Bergia Telesford, First Assistant Inspector General Rosemary Caruso, Chief Investigator Stephen Mattei and Confidential Investigator Samuel Polland. The investigation was assisted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOC.

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.