

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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DOI ARRESTS BROOKLYN GROCERY STORE OWNER ON CHARGES OF BRIBING AN
UNDERCOVER DOI INVESTIGATOR POSING AS A CITY INSPECTOR

--A DOI investigation found the bribe was offered to overlook a Consumer Affairs violation at the grocery store-

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest of SALAH ABDELRAHMAN, owner of Jeneen Food Market Corp., on a charge of offering a cash bribe to a DOI undercover investigator posing as an inspector to overlook a violation of New York City Department of Consumer Affairs ("DCA") regulations at the grocery store he owns at 4005 9th Ave. in Brooklyn.

ABDELRAHMAN, 48, of Brooklyn, was arrested today and charged with Bribery in the Third Degree, a class D felony, and Rewarding Official Misconduct in the Second Degree, a class E felony. If convicted, he faces up to seven years in prison.

According to the criminal complaint, a DOI investigator posing as an inspector went to the grocery store and observed a violation of DCA regulations. After the undercover investigator informed ABDELRAHMAN that he would be cited for the violation, ABDELRAHMAN gave the undercover investigator a cash bribe and told the undercover investigator not to issue a citation.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Bribing a City inspector to evade the law is a crime. Paying off a municipal employee is not the way to do business in New York."

The DCA issues business operating licenses to more than 60,000 businesses in 55 different categories.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DCA Commissioner Jonathan Mintz and members of his staff for their assistance in this investigation.

This investigation was conducted by DOI Assistant Inspector General Mary Kozlow and members of her staff, including Special Investigator Don McNeil, under the supervision of DOI Associate Commissioner Robert Joyce.

The Office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes 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.