

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN COMMISSIONER

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EMT ARRESTED FOR FORGED MEDICAL NOTES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI) announced today the arrest of ROBERT BROWN, an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) employed by the New York City Fire Department (FDNY), Emergency Medical Service (EMS), for submitting two forged medical notes to the FDNY to excuse his absences from work.

Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "It should be obvious to every City employee that knowingly submitting a forged document, for any reason, to a City agency is a crime and unacceptable conduct."

Brown, 23, of New Windsor, NY, an EMS employee since January 2005 who receives a salary of \$31,775, was arrested yesterday and charged with six misdemeanors: two counts each of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Third Degree, Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the Second Degree, and Official Misconduct. If convicted, Brown faces up to a year in prison.

In November and December 2005 at his EMS station in Manhattan, Brown gave his supervisor two completed FDNY medical forms in which he claimed to have been unable to work on three days because of illness. Portions of the forms supposedly were completed and signed by Brown's doctor, verifying that Brown was sick and visited his doctor's office when he missed work. DOI's investigation revealed that Brown was not at the doctor's office on those days and that the doctor's supposed written statements and signatures were forged.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta and his staff for their assistance and cooperation in this case.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's office of the Inspector General for FDNY. The office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau 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 apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.