



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
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Release #45-2008  
[nyc.gov/html/doi](http://nyc.gov/html/doi)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2008**

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**DOI ARRESTS ASSISTANT CHIEF OF CRANES AND DERRICKS  
OF CITY'S BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT ON CORRUPTION CHARGES**

*-- 26-year veteran inspector is charged with receiving bribes from a crane company,  
falsifying mobile crane inspection reports, and tampering with licensing exams --*

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today that a DOI investigation has resulted in the arrest of JAMES DELAYO, an Assistant Chief Inspector with the New York City Department of Buildings ("DOB"), Division of Cranes and Derricks, on felony corruption charges. DELAYO is charged with collecting thousands of dollars in bribes over the past eight years from a crane and equipment company for falsely reporting that the company's mobile cranes had been inspected and that its crane operators had taken and passed required practical examinations, when in fact no such inspections or practical examinations were conducted, and for providing the company with advance copies of the written examinations that would-be crane operators must pass to qualify for City licenses. This case is being prosecuted by the Office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau.

DELAYO, 60, a Bronx resident, has worked for DOB since 1982; his current salary is \$74,224. The criminal charges he faces will be filed by the District Attorney's Office and will be available shortly. DELAYO faces suspension from his job.

Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "DOI's investigation revealed the profoundly disturbing and sobering realization that a senior inspector responsible for ensuring that cranes operating in New York City are in proper condition and are operated by qualified individuals is charged with selling out his own integrity in a way that compromised public safety, leaving it in the hands of the individuals who paid him bribes, and rendered his inspectional job meaningless. DOI, working closely with District Attorney Morgenthau, is vigorously pursuing this continuing corruption investigation."

DOI's investigation found, among other things, that DELAYO took money for signing-off on mobile crane inspections he did not perform, providing in advance the questions and answers for one or more "Class C" Hoisting Machine Operator exams to a crane company, and signing-off on at least one practical exam for a crane operator who did not take the exam.

To date there is no evidence in this investigation that the activity had anything to do with the crane collapses on E. 51<sup>st</sup> and E. 91<sup>st</sup> Streets.

Arrest charges and criminal complaints are merely accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

**Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.**