

The City of New York Department of Investigation ROSE GILL HEARN COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE NEW YORK, NY 10038 212-825-5900

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2010

Release #48-2010 nyc.gov/html/doi

CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI (212) 825-5931

DOI STATEMENT ON FORMER CRANE INSPECTOR'S SENTENCE TO BETWEEN TWO AND SIX YEARS IN PRISON

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on today's sentencing of JAMES DELAYO, a former Assistant Chief Inspector with the City Department of Buildings ("DOB"), Division of Cranes and Derricks, to two to six years in prison. Judge Thomas Farber in New York County Supreme Court imposed the sentence. In March 2010, DELAYO pleaded guilty to Bribe Receiving in the Second Degree, a class C felony, for selling the DOB crane exam for a class C license, passing applicants who did not take the class C crane practical test, and falsifying crane inspection reports in exchange for more than \$10,000 in bribes. The office of New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., prosecuted the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This corrupt former City crane inspector devised a seemingly perfect scheme – get paid twice for doing absolutely nothing. In exchange for ignoring his job responsibilities he received a substantial City salary and collected bribes. But his criminal arrangement with a corrupt crane owner was exposed and stopped by the skill and tenacity of seasoned DOI investigators. This prison sentence, along with the felony conviction of the crane owner, is a potent reminder of where bribery leads. DOI continues to work vigorously with the Manhattan District Attorney's office to ensure that the public is protected from the insidious damage of corruption and fraud."

DELAYO's co-defendants, Michael Sackaris, Michael Pascalli and Nu-Way Crane Service Inc. pleaded guilty in May 2010 and are scheduled to be sentenced in July 2010.

When DELAYO resigned from his position with DOB as a result of this investigation in June 2008 he was receiving a salary of \$77,440.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., and DOB Commissioner Robert D. LiMandri and their staffs for their assistance in this case.

Assistant District Attorney Sean Sullivan from the New York County District Attorney's Office was assigned to the prosecution of the case.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOB.

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.