

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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STATEMENT BY DOI COMMISSIONER ROSE GILL HEARN REGARDING SENTENCING OF NYC FIREFIGHTER TO 5 YEARS PROBATION FOR TRANSMITTING OBSCENE IMAGES TO A MINOR

New York City Firefighter Ryan Hogan was sentenced in Brooklyn Federal Court to five years probation by United States Judge Frederic Block late Tuesday afternoon.

In May 2005, Firefighter Hogan, who had been assigned to Engine Company 237 in Brooklyn, pled guilty to knowingly and intentionally attempting to transfer obscene material to an individual he believed to be younger than 16 years of age. Hogan was arrested in May 2004, following a DOI investigation into allegations that he transmitted, over the Internet as live feed, obscene images of himself, wearing only an FDNY shirt, to someone using the screen name "cuteashley4U1990," and who had told Hogan that she was 14 years old and resided with her mother in Bethpage, Long Island. Hogan identified himself to "cuteashley" as a firefighter and used a computer located at Engine Company 237 during some of his on-line chats with her.

In addition to five years probation, Hogan must continue psychological treatment that he began following his May 2005 plea. Moreover, he must submit to random polygraph examinations, and he must participate in a computer internet-monitoring program in which he is subject to random inspection of software maintained on his computer.

Firefighter Hogan shamelessly attempted to use his position as a member of New York's Bravest to prey upon a person he thought was a minor and, in doing so, he violated the public trust given to those City employees hired to protect our children and us. The resolution of this case helps restore that public trust and emphasizes the cooperation of law enforcement and public safety agencies in removing such individuals from valued public positions.

Last evening, FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta terminated Hogan's employment with the FDNY.