



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
COMMISSIONER

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**INDIVIDUAL CHARGED WITH OFFERING MONEY TO A  
DOI UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATOR POSING AS A BUILDINGS INSPECTOR**  
**--A total of \$1,550 in bribes was allegedly offered to overlook violations at a Brooklyn work site--**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of ABRAHAM SOUDRY who is charged with offering and paying cash bribes to a DOI undercover investigator posing as an Inspector for the New York City Department of Buildings ("DOB") to avoid violations at a Brooklyn building. DOI's investigation stemmed from a DOB Inspector report about a bribe offer.

SOUDRY, 65, of Brooklyn, has been indicted on two counts of Bribery in the Third Degree, a class D felony, and one count of Rewarding Official Misconduct in the Second Degree, a class E felony. If convicted, he faces up to seven years in prison on each bribery count and up to four years in prison on the Rewarding Official Misconduct charge. The indictment charges that on two dates in May 2008, SOUDRY offered and gave cash to the undercover investigator to influence his performance of his job and to reward him for violating his duty.

DOI began its investigation after a DOB Inspector reported to DOI that he had been offered money by an individual at 2848 Brighton 7<sup>th</sup> St., a 10-story apartment building under construction. At that address, on May 2, 2008, a DOI undercover investigator, posing as a DOB Inspector, spoke with SOUDRY who allegedly paid the undercover investigator cash bribes of \$550 on May 2 and \$1,000 on May 8, to avoid citations for violations against the building.

Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Paying off a City Inspector is a crime and a foolish way of dealing with a code violation. The DOB Inspector who reported the offer of money, as others have done, is to be commended."

In 2008, DOI, acting on tips from DOB employees, arrested more than a dozen individuals on charges of paying and offering bribes and gratuities.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Acting DOB Commissioner Robert LiMandri for his and his staff's assistance in this investigation.

This case was investigated by DOI's Inspector General for the Department of Buildings Michael Carroll and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Edward Zinser, Chief Investigator Byron Biggerstaff, and Confidential Investigators Kristen Krause and Robert Miller.

The Office of Brooklyn District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the case, which is assigned to Assistant District Attorney Joseph DiBenedetto.

An indictment is merely an accusation. 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.**