

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2006

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## DOI ARRESTS A PROBATION OFFICER FOR SUBMITTING FRAUDULENT MILITARY LEAVE NOTES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of Probation Officer WILLIAM ALVAREZ on felony charges of stealing 22 days of paid leave and submitting 12 fraudulent military leave notes to the New York City Department of Probation (DOP).

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Falsely claiming military leave from the City is stealing from the taxpayers. It brings discredit to a law enforcement officer who supposedly aspired to a dual career in the civil and military service. Fortunately, the unselfish contributions of the City's many honorable and hard-working 'citizen soldiers' to our collective safety far outweigh one miscreant's abuse of the public trust."

ALVAREZ, 39, of Manhattan, has been charged with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a class D felony, 12 counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a class D felony, and 12 counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a class E felony. If convicted he faces up to seven years in prison.

ALVAREZ, a Probation Officer since 2001, annual salary \$44,011, is a member of the U.S. Military Reserve assigned to Fort Totten in Queens. DOI's investigation revealed that on 12 occasions between December 2004 and October 2005, ALVAREZ submitted claims for paid military leave and supported them with forged military papers that falsely state that he had been ordered to attend and had attended military training. Eight of the documents purportedly were issued by an official of the Bronx Naval Reserve Station and the remaining four by a U.S. Army official at Fort Totten. But both officials told DOI investigators that the documents in question were false and that ALVAREZ had neither been ordered to attend nor attended military training on the dates specified. Based on the fraudulent military documents, the DOP granted ALVAREZ 22 days of paid military leave for which he received over \$3,000 in unearned wages.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Department of Correction Commissioner Martin Horn, First Deputy Commissioner Richard Levy, and members of their staff, for their assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for the DOP, particularly Inspectors General Timothy Crowe and Julio Rodriguez and Correction Captain Vincent Valerio. The office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case, which has been assigned to Assistant District Attorney Hope Korenstein, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Leroy Frazer.

Criminal complaints are 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 directly at (212) 825-5959.