



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI ARRESTS NEW YORK CITY CORRECTION OFFICER
-- Allegedly had inappropriate sexual contact with an inmate--

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), today announced the felony arrest of ANTHONY PHILLIPS, an 18-year veteran New York City Correction Officer, for engaging in sexual acts with a male inmate and then assaulting the inmate.

PHILLIPS, 45, of Brooklyn, has been charged with Criminal Sexual Act in the Third Degree, Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree and Assault in the Third Degree. If convicted, PHILLIPS faces up to four years in jail. The Department of Correction has suspended PHILLIPS without pay.

According to the complaint, PHILLIPS was entrusted with the care and custody of a male inmate in the Correction Department holding area at Criminal Courts Building at 100 Centre Street in Manhattan. PHILLIPS allegedly touched the inmate's breast and allowed the inmate to perform oral sex on PHILLIPS. When the inmate ripped PHILLIPS' pants and underwear, PHILLIPS allegedly punched the inmate in the eye, causing a laceration and bruise. PHILLIPS allegedly grabbed the inmate's neck and forced his head underneath running water.

"This Correction Officer's conduct breaks all rules and regulations governing appropriate behavior," said DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn. "Even if an inmate solicits sexual interaction, Correction Officers should know that it is inappropriate and illegal conduct."

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Assistant Commissioner Michael Caruso and members of his staff including Supervising Investigator Octavia Hill, Special Investigators Bill Injeian, Lawrence McGuggins and Jared Feirstein, as well as prosecutors from the Manhattan District Attorney's Sex Crimes Unit. Assistant District Attorney Amy Amster will prosecute this case.

Criminal complaints are 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 make complaints about someone ripping off the city, call DOI at 212-825-5959.