



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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BROOKLYN TENANTS' GROUP EX-PRESIDENT ARRESTED FOR \$66,000 EMBEZZLEMENT

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of ERNEST GLASGOW, former president of the 511 Van Siclen Avenue Tenants' Association (Association) in Brooklyn, for stealing more than \$66,000 from the Association's bank account by unlawfully cashing 115 checks and retaining the proceeds.

GLASGOW, 58, of Manhattan, has been charged with Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, a class C felony. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years in prison.

DOI began an investigation in April 2006 when the Department of Housing Preservation and Development's (HPD) Tenant Interim Lease (TIL) program reported funds missing from the Association's bank account. Under the TIL program, tenants pay their monthly rent to their Association, which deposits the money into a checking account. The Association elects officers who manage the building and each TIL building is supervised by an HPD Building Coordinator. Both have the authority to use the Association's account to write checks in order to pay the building's maintenance and operating expenses.

The investigation revealed that, from February 2005 to May 2006, GLASGOW was the president of the 511 Van Siclen Avenue Tenants' Association, a City-owned building in HPD's TIL program. GLASGOW, over a six-month period, from September 29, 2005, through April 17, 2006, illegally negotiated 115 Association checks, in amounts ranging from \$59 to \$990, and kept the proceeds, totaling \$66,753. GLASGOW had removed the 115 checks from the Association's checkbook, made them payable to either himself or to cash, and negotiated them at various Chase bank branches or at a check cashing center located several blocks from the Van Siclen Avenue address.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for HPD, particularly First Deputy Inspector General Francis A. Sinatra, Deputy Inspector General Joan Russell-Benjamin, and Confidential Investigator Tom Yee, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Vincent E. Green. NYPD Detective Mark Murray of the 75th Precinct Detective Squad also participated in the investigation.

DOI Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked HPD Commissioner Shaun Donovan and members of his staff for their assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

The Office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the case against GLASGOW.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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