



The City of New York
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**DOI STATEMENT ON SENTENCING OF FORMER DOB INSPECTOR TO SIX MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON
FOR HIS PARTICIPATION IN A BRIBERY SCHEME**
--Scheme took place between 2000 and 2003--

DEAN A. MASSARI, 41, a former Inspector for the City Department of Buildings ("DOB"), was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn to six months in federal prison, three years of supervised release and a \$3,000 fine for his role in a scheme in which he accepted thousands of dollars in bribes for overlooking City regulations involving the construction of residential sewer line connections.

The sentencing is the culmination of an investigation by the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI") and the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), with assistance from the City Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"). The office of United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, Benton J. Campbell, prosecuted the case, which was assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Brownell.

MASSARI and JOSEPH DEGRATTO, 65, a retired subsurface supervisor at Pullini Water Services Inc., a Brooklyn plumbing company, pleaded guilty in October 2007 to Theft or Bribery Concerning Programs Receiving Federal Funds. DEGRATTO will be sentenced at a later date. MASSARI resigned from his DOB position in 2003 and DEGRATTO has retired from his job.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said: "Today's sentencing is particularly gratifying because this employee was arrested after leaving his City job, presumably believing he had gotten away with the crime. But DOI is equally willing to go after the corrupt City employee who has already left his position as well as a City worker who engages in illegal behavior while still on the job. This prison sentence should be a warning to any City worker, especially buildings inspectors who are entrusted with the significant and critical responsibility for ensuring that construction complies with City regulations. City employees who accept bribes for ignoring their job duties will face arrest, prosecution and prison time. I commend the hard work of DOI's investigators, the FBI and the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District."

MASSARI, of Mount Kisco, N.Y., and DEGRATTO, of Manchester, N.J., were arrested in May 2007 on allegations that DEGRATTO paid MASSARI money several times per month between January 2000 and June 2003. In exchange, MASSARI approved paperwork required by the City, even though he never conducted the required inspections. In addition, DEGRATTO told Pullini work crews to deviate from plans

approved by the DEP, which resulted in reducing the amount of materials and digging involved to complete the jobs.

Investigators identified approximately a dozen sewer connections in Brooklyn and the Bronx in which crews deviated from approved plans. Engineers with DEP informed DOI that none of those sites, or the sewer system, has been compromised.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DEP Commissioner Emily Lloyd and her staff for their ongoing assistance in this investigation. Commissioner Gill Hearn also thanked the FBI's New York Field Office for their partnership in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI Inspector General Michael Carroll and Deputy Inspector General Michael Healy of DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DEP, under the Supervision of Associate Commissioner John B. Kantor. Also assisting in the investigation from DOI were Special Inspector General Dennis Curran and Deputy Chief Investigator Crissy DeAngelo and Investigator Robert Miller.

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.

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