



The City of New York
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**DOI ARRESTS MANHATTAN WOMAN ON CHARGES OF CONCEALING INCOME
TO FRAUDULENTLY OBTAIN APPROXIMATELY \$10,800 IN HOUSING SUBSIDIES**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of DIANE GARCIA on charges of failing to report income on recertification forms submitted to the City Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") to obtain approximately \$10,816 in housing subsidies she was not entitled to receive. The office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case.

GARCIA, 61, of Manhattan, has been charged with Grand Larceny in the Third degree, a class D felony, and Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a class E felony. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison and a class E felony by up to four years in prison.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Individuals seeking housing subsidies with the City should know that concealing their income will only result in arrest and prosecution. Today's arrest is part of DOI's ongoing commitment to root out housing fraud and preserve taxpayer funds."

DOI began its investigation after it was notified by HPD about irregularities regarding GARCIA's applications with HPD.

According to the criminal complaint, between July 2006 and August 2008, GARCIA was receiving housing assistance subsidies through HPD. DOI's investigation found that GARCIA failed to report to HPD the income she earned from working at a mental health not-for profit in 2006 and 2007. Because that income was not included in documents submitted to HPD, GARCIA received approximately \$10,816 in housing assistance subsidies she was not entitled to receive.

In separate cases last week, DOI arrested three individuals on charges of fraudulently obtaining housing subsidies they were not entitled to receive. DOI's press release on that matter can be found at the following link:
http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/pdf/pr70nycha fraud_71609.pdf.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked HPD Commissioner Rafael Cestero and New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau and their staffs for their assistance on this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by the Office of Inspector General for HPD, including Investigator Gabriel Mombrun, under the supervision of HPD Inspector General Peter L. Zanolin.

Assistant District Attorney George Bronner with the office of New York County District Attorney has been assigned to prosecute the case.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is 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.

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Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.