



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

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CONTACT: EMILY GEST
(212) 825-5931

CONTRACTOR OFFERED DEP EMPLOYEE \$11,000 BRIBE AND PAID \$4,000 IN BRIBES
-- DEP employee reported the bribe offer to DOI --

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the felony arrest of MANY N. MANY, the owner of MAT Builders, Inc., for allegedly offering an \$11,000 bribe to a construction Project Manager for the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in connection with several maintenance projects at DEP facilities located in Manhattan and The Bronx. MANY gave \$4,000 in cash to the DEP Project Manager before he was arrested.

MANY, 47, of Mellville, New York, will be charged with Bribery in the Second Degree. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years in prison.

DOI's investigation began after the DEP Project Manager reported the bribe offer to DOI as required under City law. At the time of the bribe was offered, MAT Builders had a contract with DEP to provide masonry repair services at various DEP facilities (e.g., sidewalk repair, re-pointing of buildings, concrete and brick work). The contract, a requirements/time and materials agreement, had a maximum value of approximately \$1.1 million. While the contract was underway, MANY offered the DEP Project Manager a "kick-back" of 1% of the total value of the contract (\$11,000) in exchange for the expeditious approval of payment requests and to over-look non-safety related violations such as shoddy work. MANY allegedly made two \$2,000 cash payments to the DEP Project Manager at restaurants in Queens.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "While every City employee is obligated to report offers of bribes to DOI, I congratulate the DEP employee for doing so. The employee refused to compromise his honesty and integrity and helped DOI catch a corrupt contractor in the act."

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DEP Acting Commissioner David Tweedy, and members of his staff, for their assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for DEP John B. Kantor, and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Christopher Staackmann, Chief Investigator Michael Carroll and Special Investigators Michael Santos and Charlie Merceica. The New York County District Attorney's Labor Racketeering Unit/Construction Industry Strike Force is handling the case. Assistant District Attorney Jane Tully, Deputy Chief of the unit, will prosecute.

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 report someone ripping off the city, call 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.