

The City of New York Department of Investigation ROSE GILL HEARN COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE NEW YORK, NY 10038 212-825-5900 Release #79-2010 nyc.gov/html/doi

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010

CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI (212) 825-5931

DOI ARRESTS CORRECTION OFFICER CHARGED WITH TRANSPORTING NARCOTICS IN CITY JAIL

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today that DOI arrested a City Correction Officer late Friday, when he was charged with carrying 30 suspected Suboxone pills, a controlled substance, and eight pouches of tobacco to sell or deliver to inmates in a Rikers Island jail. DOI immediately investigated a report yesterday from City Department of Correction ("DOC") supervisors and recovered the charged contraband from the on-duty officer, a four-year employee, who was immediately suspended by DOC. The office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is prosecuting the criminal case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This officer's charged trafficking in narcotics and contraband put him on the wrong side of the law and the jailhouse door. He turned his back on his duty and chose instead to pocket extra money for violating it, according to the charges, forfeiting his integrity and jeopardizing jail safety, his law enforcement career, and his personal freedom."

CLARENCE CARRIER, 45, a Brooklyn resident, is charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a class B felony, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Fifth Degree, a class D felony, Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree, a class D felony, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Seventh Degree, Promoting Prison Contraband in the Second Degree, and Official Misconduct, class A misdemeanors. The top charge is punishable upon conviction by a prison sentence of up to nine years.

CARRIER has been employed as a DOC Correction Officer since June 2006 and was assigned to the Anna M. Kross Center ("AMKC") on Rikers Island. His annual base salary is approximately \$54,432. He was suspended yesterday.

According to the criminal complaint, DOI's investigation revealed that on November 12, 2010, inside the AMKC, CARRIER possessed eight pouches of tobacco that he intended to sell to inmates for \$20 a pouch and 30 pills of suspected Suboxone that he intended to deliver to an inmate for money.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DOC Commissioner Dora B. Schriro and Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, and their staffs, for their assistance in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOC.

The Bronx County District Attorney's Rackets Bureau under the direction of Bureau Chief Thomas Leahy is in charge of the prosecution.

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.