



The City of New York
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**DOI STATEMENT ON PRISON SENTENCE OF FORMER HPD SUPERVISOR FOR
SELLING SECTION 8 VOUCHERS FOR CASH BRIBES**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on today's sentencing of JOBA CORTORREAL, former supervisor at the City Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD"), to between 1½ and five years in prison. Acting State Supreme Court Justice Steven Barrett sentenced CORTORREAL today in Bronx County Supreme Court. In August 2010, CORTORREAL, 39, pleaded guilty to 26 counts of Bribe Receiving in the Third Degree and one count of Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree. She was indicted in 2008 as part of a wide-ranging investigation that began with an anonymous tip received by DOI and culminated in the arrests of 29 individuals. The office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson prosecuted the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This former City housing supervisor utilized her inside access to the City's Section 8 voucher process for her own corrupt gain. This case should send a message to other City employees who have access to City programs, money, or property, that taking advantage of that access, as this defendant did, is a high-risk game, a betrayal of the public trust, and the consequences as in this case are the loss of her City job and her freedom. This case exemplifies DOI's commitment to expose, stop, and penalize corruption and fraud that drains these precious public funds from needy and eligible families who follow the rules. I thank Bronx District Attorney Johnson and his staff for their partnership with DOI and congratulate them on the successful outcome of this case."

CORTORREAL was employed at HPD from October 2002 until her termination in October 2006.

The investigation resulted in 29 guilty pleas.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson and HPD Commissioner Rafael E. Cestero and their staffs for their assistance in this investigation.

DOI's Office of Inspector General for HPD conducted this investigation and received assistance from the Office of the Inspector General for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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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