

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

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## DOI STATEMENT ON 5 1/4-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE OF LEAD AND ASBESTOS TESTER WHO FALSIFIED REPORTS

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on today's sentencing of SAVERIO TODARO to 63 months in federal prison. TODARO, 68, pleaded guilty in March 2010 to falsifying hundreds of lead and asbestos inspection and testing reports for residences and other locations throughout New York City. He was sentenced today before U.S. District Judge Kimba M. Wood in Manhattan federal court. DOI investigated the case with the New York Area Office of Criminal Enforcement of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the New York Regional Office of the United States Department of Labor Office of Inspector General. The office of Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, prosecuted the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This defendant repeatedly ignored his professional responsibility as a certified and licensed lead and asbestos inspector, conned the City, and placed health and safety at possible risk. Today's prison sentence is a just result for an individual who flouted inspectional regulations for profit. These crimes demonstrate the indelible link between integrity and safety and the serious consequences of deliberate violations. DOI is committed to working with its law enforcement and City partners to expose and stop individuals who falsify government records to evade regulations."

DOI's Offices of Inspectors General for the City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") and Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") investigated the case, with assistance from DOI's Office of Inspector General for the City Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP")

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anne C. Ryan of the Office of U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Preet Bharara, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York; William V. Lometti; Special Agent in Charge of the New York Area Office of Criminal Enforcement for the U.S. EPA; Marjorie Franzman, Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Regional Office of the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Inspector General; Dr. Thomas Farley, Commissioner of DOHMH; Rafael E. Cestero, Commissioner of HPD; and Caswell F. Hollway, Commissioner of DEP; and their staffs, for their assistance in this investigation.

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.