



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS LANDLORD FOR ALLEGEDLY OFFERING \$100 TO
AN UNDERCOVER DOI INVESTIGATOR TO OVERLOOK HOUSING VIOLATIONS**
--DOI investigation began with tip from the Department of Housing Preservation and Development --

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of MUKTADIR ROHMAN, the owner and landlord of 1817 Gleason Ave. in the Bronx, for allegedly offering \$100 to a DOI investigator posing as a City Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") Code Enforcement Inspector to overlook housing violations.

ROHMAN, 32, of Queens, is charged with Bribery in the Third Degree, a class D felony; Criminal Solicitation in the Fourth Degree, a class A misdemeanor and Obstructing Governmental Administration in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor. If convicted, ROHMAN faces up to seven years in prison.

In response to a tip from HPD, on December 19, 2007, an undercover DOI investigator posing as a HPD inspector went to 1817 Gleason Ave., a three-unit house in the Bronx that is owned by ROHMAN, to conduct an inspection. The undercover investigator discovered housing violations, which included an obstructed second exit, a broken radiator valve and failure to provide a peephole on the door of one of the apartments. ROHMAN handed the undercover investigator \$100 in cash and indicated the money was in exchange for overlooking the violations, according to the criminal complaint.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Landlords are supposed to adhere to housing regulations and provide safe living conditions for their tenants. Those who believe that offering a bribe will enable them to hide housing violations and circumvent the system should know they risk arrest and possible prison time. I commend HPD for their help on this case, which prompted DOI's undercover investigation."

The Office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is prosecuting the case.

The investigation was conducted by Inspector General Joseph P. Piazza, Assistant Inspector General Joseph H. Medina, Chief Investigator Belarminia Ortiz and Construction Project Manager Joseph Morante.

Criminal complaints are merely an accusation. Defendants are 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.

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