



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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REMARKS OF DOI COMMISSIONER ROSE GILL HEARN REGARDING TESTWELL INDICTMENT

DOI was pleased to work with the Manhattan DA and the other law enforcement agencies to expose the blatant fraud and utter disregard for proper building standards described in the indictment unsealed today.

Testwell was entrusted with certifying to the City and others that the concrete being used on these projects was up to Code. Instead, this indictment charges Testwell's employees – from on-site inspectors to the President of the company -- with flouting the law and skirting their professional responsibility, actions that burden the City's taxpayers with the cost of evaluating the sites.

To help uncover the fraud, DOI investigators executed search warrants and essentially plotted a map linking Testwell's jobs to specific false documents filed with the Department of Buildings. The false filings involve properties in Queens and Manhattan.

In addition, DOI investigators helped uncover that Testwell's concrete testers were not certified, as they should have been, by the American Concrete Institute, and the proper concrete design procedure, per the Building Code, was not used.

The Buildings Department has already begun to review the relevant sites.

The investigation is ongoing and DOI will continue to work with its partners to ensure that the Building Code and the law are followed and that those who choose to defy it will face the consequences.

An indictment is merely an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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