

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

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DOI ARRESTS LICENSED SUPERINTENDENT OF CONSTRUCTION ON BRIBERY CHARGE

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest today of a licensed Superintendent of Construction on a charge of offering a \$1,000 bribe to a DOI undercover investigator posing as an inspector with the City Department of Buildings ("DOB") on the understanding that he would not be cited for violations at a Queens apartment building under construction. DOI began investigating after a DOB inspector reported he was offered gratuities that he did not accept. The office of Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Bribing a City inspector is risky business that leads to arrest and prosecution. I thank the Buildings Inspector for reporting the incident. DOI will continue to work with the Buildings Department to expose and stop individuals who undermine New Yorkers' safety by trying to evade the City's construction codes."

XIU H. WU, 28, of Queens, was charged with Bribery in the Third Degree, a class D felony. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison.

According to the criminal complaint, in August 2010, an undercover DOI investigator posing as a DOB inspector went to 98-25 50th Ave. in Queens, where he observed several building code violations, including cigarette butts at the construction work site. The defendant identified himself as the construction supervisor and offered the undercover DOI investigator \$1,000 in cash in exchange for not issuing a violation.

The defendant is licensed by DOB as a Superintendent of Construction and will be referred for administrative discipline.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DOB Commissioner Robert LiMandri and Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown and their staffs for their assistance in this investigation.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of Inspector General for DOB.

Assistant District Attorney Yvonne Francis from the Office of Queens County District Attorney has been assigned to the prosecution of the case.

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.