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## JOINT OPERATION BY DEPARTMENTS OF INVESTIGATION AND CORRECTION ON RIKERS ISLAND SEARCH FOR DRUGS, WEAPONS, AND CONTRABAND

MARK G. PETERS, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), and JOSEPH PONTE, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Correction (DOC), issued the following statement on today's joint operation on Rikers Island:

Earlier today, DOI and DOC began an unprecedented joint, tactical search that included 75 locations in the George Motchan Detention Center (GMDC) on Rikers Island. Searches were also conducted of Correction Officers coming into and leaving the facility and of inmate cells and inmates. This massive operation was necessitated by information developed during DOI's ongoing investigation of violence and other illegal conduct on Rikers Island. That investigation has already resulted in more than a dozen Correction Officers referred for prosecution on an array of charges. Additional referrals and arrests are anticipated.

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.