



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**DOI ARRESTS BROOKLYN JUVENILE FACILITY STAFFER;  
CLAIMED HE WAS MONITORING 3 TEENAGE RESIDENTS WHEN, IN FACT, THEY HAD ESCAPED**  
**—The three residents were later charged in connection with a Manhattan rape and robbery  
that occurred during the escape—**

Today, MARK G. PETERS, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), in partnership with Kenneth Thompson, Kings County District Attorney, announced the arrest of a Youth Care Worker with Boys Town New York, Inc., a City-contracted vendor that provides non-secure residential placements in Brooklyn and Queens to youths who have been adjudicated as juvenile delinquents and placed in the custody of the City Administration for Children’s Services (“ACS”). The staff member, who is now suspended from Boys Town and was responsible for monitoring the teens’ whereabouts and verifying their presence by recording it in a daily log book, has been charged with falsifying the log book that stated the teenage residents were present in a Park Slope, Brooklyn residence. Those teens have now been charged in connection with the rape, assault, and robbery of a woman in Manhattan during the early hours of June 1, after they escaped the Boys Town home without detection.

The arrest is part of a broader investigation that DOI has now opened into the management of the City’s juvenile facilities and the potential failure to properly supervise residents placed there by the courts and ACS. The investigation will review whether the failure of security at the Park Slope home is an isolated instance or part of a broader systemic failure. Additional arrests and a report on the investigation will follow as appropriate.

DENZEL THOMPSON, 24, of Brooklyn, N.Y., is charged with Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a class E felony, and Falsifying Business Records in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor. Upon conviction, a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison and a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year’s incarceration.

THOMPSON has worked with the Boys Town organization as a Youth Care Worker for approximately one year. He was suspended by the organization last week as a result of this conduct.

DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, “Today’s arrest demonstrates the tragic results when basic safety protocols are not followed and City-contracted workers fail to perform their jobs. DOI’s investigation will continue, so that the City can take whatever steps are needed to ensure the safety of both New Yorkers, generally, and the residents of these facilities.”

Brooklyn District Attorney Ken Thompson said, “This defendant’s alleged lapse in his duties has resulted in serious consequences. A young woman was allegedly gang raped by his charges. Close monitoring of juvenile delinquents is a critical component of these types of non-secure residences.”

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According to the criminal complaint and DOI's investigation, between approximately 11 p.m. May 31, 2015, and 1:30 a.m. June 1, 2015, the defendant observed the three teens in their beds every half hour during that time period, and between 1:30 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. June 1, the defendant stopped checking on the three teens and did not observe them or have any knowledge of their whereabouts. The investigation also found that the defendant wrote in the juvenile facility log book that he had checked the whereabouts of the teens every half hour between 11 p.m., May 31, and 6 a.m. June 1, stating that "all youth down in bed," and that the entries between 1:30 a.m. and 6 a.m. were false since the defendant did not observe the teens during that timeframe. The three boys the defendant was supposed to have monitored escaped the juvenile facility without detection and have now been charged in connection with the rape, assault, and robbery of a woman in Manhattan during the early hours of June 1.

Boys Town has a \$19 million contract with the City to operate non-secure placement services that provide residential care to adjudicated juvenile delinquents placed in the custody of ACS by a Family Court Judge and who have been determined by the Court or ACS to be appropriate for non-secure placement. Boys Town operates one juvenile facility in Queens and two in Brooklyn. A fourth juvenile facility in Brooklyn, on Sixth Avenue, the site of the falsification and escape, has been closed by ACS.

DOI Commissioner Peters thanks Kings County District Attorney Kenneth Thompson and his staff, especially William E. Schaeffer, Chief of Investigations, and Deputy Bureau Chief Emily Bradford of the Public Integrity Bureau, for their partnership on this investigation; and ACS Commissioner Gladys Carrión and her staff for their cooperation in this investigation.

DOI's Office of the Inspector General for City-funded Not-for-Profits and DOI's Office of the Inspector General for ACS conducted this investigation, specifically Assistant Inspector General Octavia Hill, Special Investigators Katerina Kurteva, Peter Relyea, Cory Pihl, Erin Schultz and Steven Montague, and Investigative Attorney Carolyn Sheehan, under the supervision of Inspectors General Andrew Brunsdon and Shelley Solomon, Associate Commissioner William Jorgenson, Special Associate Commissioner Susan Lambiase, Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Michael Carroll and First Deputy Lesley Brovner; and with assistance from DOI's NYPD Squad.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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