



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**DOI ARRESTS CITY CORRECTION OFFICER ("CO") ON FELONY CONTRABAND CHARGES AFTER  
CORRECTION DEPARTMENT DISCOVERS CO IN POSSESSION OF KNIVES AS HE ENTERS JAIL**

MARK G. PETERS, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest late yesterday (Wednesday, September 23, 2015) of a City Correction Officer ("CO") on charges of possessing three knives, prohibited items in the City's jails. The investigation began after the CO was stopped during a routine screening as he entered the Anna M. Kross Center ("AMKC") to start his shift Wednesday afternoon at about 3 p.m. After placing his small duffel bag in the x-ray machine to be screened, a folding knife with approximately a 4-inch blade was found in his bag. The investigation later revealed two other knives connected to the CO who DOI arrested late yesterday. DOI was able to effect this arrest because of the quick and proper action by Department of Correction ("DOC") staff who first screened, searched and found the knives and immediately reported the incident to DOI.

DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, "This defendant placed his fellow correction officers at risk by trying to conceal and bring in knives to AMKC, according to the charges. That we were able to quickly find and confiscate these dangerous items is a testament to DOC's adoption of DOI's recommendation for better staff screening at jail entrances. I commend DOC's expeditious response and reporting to DOI – together we were able to stop a situation that seriously jeopardized jail safety."

ANGELO MARTINEZ, 51, of Middle Village, N.Y. was arrested late Wednesday, September 23, 2015, on three counts of Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree, a class D felony, pending review by the Bronx County District Attorney's Office.

MARTINEZ has been employed by DOC since August 2007 and receives a base salary of approximately \$76,488. He was suspended without pay when he was placed into custody yesterday.

According to DOI's investigation, MARTINEZ was screened as he entered AMKC. A DOC Integrity Control Officer discovered an object in MARTINEZ's duffel bag as it went through the x-ray machine, searched the bag, and found a folding knife with a four-inch blade. The CO was instructed to remain at that location while tour commanders were alerted. The CO is then observed on video surveillance removing from his bag, and concealing in his hand, a second knife to be placed in a lock box. Officers can stow their firearms in lock boxes that are located just before entering the jail facilities. DOC later discovered that object was a second knife with approximately a four-inch blade. A subsequent search of MARTINEZ's DOC locker revealed a third knife with approximately a two-inch blade. DOC policy specifically prohibits knives in its jail facilities, including employee lockers. This investigation continues.

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DOI Commissioner Peters thanked DOC Commissioner Joseph Ponte, DOC Deputy Commissioner Michael Blake, and their staffs, for their cooperation and assistance in this investigation.

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

Arrest charges are accusations. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

*DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and New York City's corruption watchdog. 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. DOI's strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to high-impact arrests, preventive internal controls and operational reforms that improve the way the City runs.*

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