

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

MARK G. PETERS COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE NEW YORK, NY 10038 212-825-5900 Release #25-2016 nyc.gov/html/doi

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2016

CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI NICOLE TURSO

## DOI STATEMENT REGARDING THE LAW DEPARTMENT'S PROVISION OF RECORDS TO DOI RELATED TO AN ONGOING INVESTIGATION

Since the release on July 14, 2016, of DOI's report regarding the Rivington matter, DOI stated it was pursuing enforcement options in light of the City's failure to produce records that DOI requested as part of its investigation.

Last Tuesday (July 19, 2016), the DOI Commissioner authorized the agency to commence litigation if the Law Department failed to produce the requested records. Last Thursday (July 21, 2016), DOI sent a letter to Corporation Counsel Zachary Carter explaining that DOI will commence legal proceedings against the Law Department if it does not produce the requested records to DOI under Executive Order 16 ("EO16"). In that letter, DOI also demonstrated that records the Law Department redacted and claimed were not relevant did, in fact, contain evidence relevant to our investigation.

After several days of discussion, the Law Department delivered thousands of pages of unredacted documents to DOI, which the Law Department had previously contended were not relevant. Today, the Law Department agreed to provide access to the computers in question.

DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, "The Law Department's compliance reaffirms the statutory powers of DOI as set out in EO16 and its access to City records. I am pleased that the Law Department decided to comply with the law. And, I am proud of the DOI staff who doggedly pursued access to these records so DOI can fully investigate the matter at hand."

Commissioner Peters was recused from the investigation related to Rivington but is not recused from the broader issue regarding enforcement of DOI's statutory powers.

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.