



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

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**DOI STATEMENT ON GUILTY PLEAS OF A DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION CAPTAIN  
AND TWO OFFICERS IN CONNECTION WITH ASSAULT OF INMATE AND COVER UP SCHEME**

Mark G. Peters, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI") issued the following statement on a City Department of Correction ("DOC") Captain and two Correction Officers ("COs") who pleaded guilty today to falsifying business records in connection with covering up the beating of an inmate in October 2012 at the George R. Vierno Center ("GRVC"). According to DOI's investigation, after the incident, COs APRIL JACKSON, TYRONE WINT, and Captain MOISES SIMANCAS all submitted false Use of Force ("UOF") reports that omitted specific information and were inconsistent with the injuries the inmate sustained. The case was prosecuted by the office of Bronx County District Attorney Darcel D. Clark. The defendants are expected to be sentenced in Bronx County Supreme Court on January 5, 2017.

DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, "Justice will prevail when laws are broken in our City jails – no matter who breaks them. DOI's investigation found that these sworn law enforcement officers – who are now convicted felons – retaliated against an inmate and then tried to cover up the attack. This case demonstrates a continued necessity for the oversight and reform only DOI can provide as the City's Inspector General and highlights our agency's dogged commitment to pursuing crimes involving unjustified force in the City's jails."

SIMANCAS, 45, of Staten Island, N.Y., JACKSON, 36, of Queens, N.Y. and WINT, 31, of Brentwood, N.Y. each pleaded guilty to a charge of Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, a class E felony.

SIMANCAS has been employed with DOC since October 1997 and received an annual base salary of approximately \$78,683. JACKSON has been employed with DOC since August 2008 and WINT has been employed with DOC since June 2008 and each received an annual base salary of approximately \$76,488. Each of the defendants resigned from their positions with DOC on Wednesday, November 9, 2016.

DOI's investigation found that on October 30, 2012, after an inmate was verbally abusive to one of the defendants, SIMANCAS and WINT led the inmate, who was rear-cuffed, out of the housing area and into a stairwell, blocked from view, where the inmate was brought to the ground. SIMANCAS, WINT and JACKSON hit the inmate multiple times in the head, neck and torso. The investigation also determined the inmate was hit multiple times with a baton while also restrained, and had marks patterned in a manner consistent with the imprint of a DOC-issued baton. The investigation further found that each of the defendants, to cover up the beating, submitted false UOF reports with DOC that omitted the use of the baton and were inconsistent with the inmate's injuries.

DOI Commissioner Peters thanked Bronx County District Attorney Darcel D. Clark, DOC Commissioner Joseph Ponte, and their staffs, for their assistance and cooperation in this investigation.

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The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOC, specifically Assistant Inspector General Carmelo Galarza, under the supervision of Inspector General Jennifer Sculco, Associate Commissioner Paul Cronin, Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Michael Carroll, and First Deputy Commissioner Lesley Brovner.

Assistant District Attorney L. Newton Mendys, supervisor in the Criminal Enterprise Bureau of the Bronx County District Attorney's Office, prosecuted the case.

*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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