



The City of New York  
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Release #09-2022  
nyc.gov/doi

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022**

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**Remarks of DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber  
Press Conference at the United States Attorney's Office for the  
Southern District of New York**

DOI worked alongside the dedicated prosecutors of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and the investigators of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on this significant investigation. In fact, this investigation reflects the power of partnership between law enforcement and our shared commitment to follow the facts, without fear or favor, wherever they lead.

As today's allegations underscore, public funds that support grants cannot be used as currency to boost a candidate's fundraising, and candidates must provide accurate information regarding their contributions and how they are made. Honesty on these issues is not negotiable.

The charges also illustrate the importance of compliance with City campaign fundraising rules and candor with the New York City Campaign Finance Board ("CFB"), which enforces those rules. The CFB is vital to maintaining integrity and transparency in campaign financing. The lies and deception alleged here frustrate its work and deprive New Yorkers of accurate information with respect to political contributions.

I thank U.S. Attorney Damian Williams, FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Office Michael Driscoll and their outstanding teams for partnering with us on this matter. And at DOI, I want to thank Senior Investigative Auditor Jeffrey Freeman and Senior Inspector General Andrew Sein for their work on this investigation.

Thank you.

An indictment is an accusation. 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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