



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

JOCELYN E. STRAUBER  
COMMISSIONER

180 MAIDEN LANE  
NEW YORK, NY 10038  
212-825-5900

Release #06-2023  
[nyc.gov/doi](https://nyc.gov/doi)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023**

**CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI  
ERIC LENKOWITZ  
(212) 825-5931**

## **SECOND FORMER NYCHA SUPERVISOR SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR ACCEPTING BRIBES TO DOLE OUT NO-BID CONTRACTS**

Jocelyn E. Strauber, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued a statement today on the sentencing of JULIO FIGUEROA, an Assistant Resident Buildings Superintendent for the New York City Housing Authority ("NYCHA"), who accepted approximately \$6,000 in bribes in exchange for awarding no-bid contracts to a confidential informant ("CI"). FIGUEROA pled guilty in November 2022 to receipt of a bribe by an agent or organization receiving federal funds. On Thursday, February 9, 2023, U.S. District Judge Denise L. Cote sentenced FIGUEROA to 15 months in prison and three years' supervised release, and ordered him to pay \$12,000 in forfeiture and restitution. DOI investigated this matter in partnership with the office of Damian Williams, United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, "This NYCHA Assistant Superintendent had a responsibility to maintain NYCHA buildings and protect public funds, instead he used the City Housing Authority's no-bid contract process for his own benefit, making thousands of dollars in illegal kickbacks. This sentence conveys that municipal employees who bribe City contractors will face serious consequences. I want to thank our partners at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York for the successful prosecution of this matter and the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for its collaboration on this investigation."

According to the criminal complaint, between July 2021 and August 2022, FIGUEROA, then employed as the Assistant Resident Buildings Superintendent at the Bailey Ave - W 193 St. and Fort Independence Street-Heath Avenue developments in the Bronx, solicited and accepted approximately \$6,000 in bribes from a CI in exchange for awarding no-bid NYCHA contracts that were valued at a total of approximately \$46,622. According to the complaint, in discussions with the CI about the bribe amounts, FIGUEROA first told the CI to pay whatever the CI was comfortable with; later FIGUEROA proposed a bribe of between \$700 and \$1,000 per no-bid contract of approximately \$5,000.

FIGUEROA began employment at NYCHA in May 1999. His annual salary was approximately \$76,064 at the time of his resignation in December 2022, one month after his guilty plea in this matter.

In a separate matter Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, former NYCHA Superintendent LEROY GIBBS was sentenced to 33 months in prison, and ordered to pay a \$100,000 fine and \$4,000 in forfeiture and restitution for soliciting and accepting approximately \$2,000 in bribes from a NYCHA vendor, who was acting as a confidential informant for DOI, in exchange for awarding that vendor two jobs at a NYCHA property that were valued, in total, at just under \$10,000. For more details on that sentencing, click here: <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doi/press-releases/2023/Feb/03GibbsSent02.08.2023.pdf>

more

Commissioner Strauber thanked U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York Damian Williams and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Catherine Ghosh and Robert Sobelman of the Public Corruption Unit, who prosecuted this case. Commissioner Strauber also thanked Christina Scaringi, Special Agent in Charge, New York Regional Office of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development – Office of Inspector General and her staff, for their partnership on the investigation; and NYCHA Chair Gregory Russ and Interim Chief Executive Officer Lisa Bova-Hiatt for their agency's cooperation.

DOI's Office of the Inspector General for NYCHA handled this investigation, including DOI Confidential Investigator Delcine Doscher, Assistant Inspector General Enio Bencosme, First Assistant Inspector General Robin Jacknow, Deputy Inspector General Gregory DeBoer, and Inspector General Ralph Iannuzzi, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella and First Deputy Commissioner Daniel G. Cort.

*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.*

**DOI's press releases can also be found at [twitter.com/NYC\\_DOI](https://twitter.com/NYC_DOI)**  
**Know something rotten in City government? Help DOI Get the Worms Out of the Big Apple.**  
**Call: 212-3-NYC-DOI or email: [Corruption@DOI.nyc.gov](mailto:Corruption@DOI.nyc.gov)**