



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI COMMISSIONER NADIA I. SHIHATA MARKS FIRST DAY AT DOI

Today, Nadia I. Shihata, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), marks her first day at DOI, after having been sworn in at the City Clerk’s Office on April 21, 2026. She was appointed by Mayor Zohran Mamdani on Thursday, February 12, 2026, and confirmed by the City Council on April 16, 2026.

DOI Commissioner Nadia Shihata brings extensive legal experience to the leadership role at DOI. Just prior to joining DOI, Commissioner Shihata co-founded a women-owned, boutique law firm in New York City specializing in civil rights and sexual misconduct matters, internal investigations, wrongful convictions, and criminal defense. And before that, she served as a federal prosecutor at the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York for over 11 years, including as Chief of the Organized Crime and Gangs Section and Deputy Chief of the Public Integrity Section. In these roles she supervised complex racketeering and violent crime investigations and prosecutions and oversaw public corruption cases involving bribery, fraud, theft of government funds, money laundering and drug trafficking by correctional officers. Commissioner Shihata is the first woman of color to hold the role of DOI Commissioner.

DOI Commissioner Nadia Shihata said, “I have dedicated my legal career to seeking justice without fear or favor, making our community safer, and giving voice to those who too often have none – principles that will inform the foundation of my work as DOI Commissioner. Corruption and fraud erode the public’s trust in government as well as the confidence of the vast majority of public employees who come to work every day and do their jobs with integrity and professionalism. DOI is here for them, and for all New Yorkers, to foster a culture of honesty and transparency and to conduct rigorous, fair, and independent investigations, following the facts wherever they lead. New Yorkers deserve no less. It is an honor and a privilege to lead this unique oversight agency with a legacy that spans more than 150 years. I look forward to hitting the ground running and working with the dedicated professionals who work diligently to carry out DOI’s mission every day.”

About DOI Commissioner Nadia I. Shihata

Commissioner Shihata has spent most of her legal career in public service. For over 11 years, Commissioner Shihata served as a federal prosecutor at the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York, where she held several senior leadership roles. As Chief of the Organized Crime and Gangs Section, she supervised complex racketeering and violent crime investigations and prosecutions involving members and associates of transnational criminal organizations, street gangs, and La Cosa Nostra. In addition, as Deputy Chief of the Public Integrity Section, Commissioner Shihata supervised public corruption investigations and prosecutions involving bribery, fraud, theft of government funds, money laundering, and drug trafficking by correctional officers.

During her tenure as a federal prosecutor, Commissioner Shihata also personally led and handled numerous investigations involving civil rights violations, sexual abuse, extortion, public corruption, racketeering and violent crime, including murder. Among other notable cases, she led the groundbreaking investigation and prosecution of R&B musician Robert Sylvester Kelly, also known as “R Kelly,” who was convicted after a six-week trial in the Eastern District of New York of racketeering and related offenses and sentenced to 30 years’ imprisonment. This was the first time Kelly was held criminally accountable for his conduct after decades of allegations and abuse. Commissioner Shihata also led an extensive investigation of sexual abuse of female inmates by federal correctional officers at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn, New York, as well as the investigation and prosecution of an active-duty NYPD officer and his co-conspirators for their involvement in a violent extortion scheme targeting small business owners in an immigrant community in Astoria, Queens.

In 2022, Commissioner Shihata left the United States Attorney’s Office to co-found a women-owned boutique law firm in New York City focused on civil rights and sexual misconduct matters, internal investigations, wrongful convictions and criminal defense.

Prior to becoming a federal prosecutor, Commissioner Shihata served as Appeals Counsel in the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague, Netherlands, and worked as a litigation associate at two large international law firms. From 2003-2004, Commissioner Shihata served as a law clerk to the Honorable T.S. Ellis, III, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Commissioner Shihata graduated from the University of Michigan Law School *magna cum laude* and Order of the Coif, where she served as Editor-in-Chief of the Michigan Law Review and received the Henry M. Bates Memorial Scholarship, the law school’s highest honor. She also holds an LLM in International Legal Studies from New York University School of Law and a B.A. from Tufts University.

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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