



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI COMMISSIONER NADIA I. SHIHATA UPDATES THE PUBLIC ON THE CITY COUNCIL-MANDATED
INVESTIGATION INTO WHAT THE CITY MAY HAVE KNOWN ABOUT
THE TOXINS PRODUCED BY THE SEPTEMBER 11TH TERRORIST ATTACKS**

Nadia I. Shihata, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), provided an update today on the City Council-mandated investigation into what the City may have known about the environmental toxins produced by the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Commissioner Shihata also introduced [a new public webpage](#) that provides relevant information about City Council Resolution 560-A (which prompted this investigation), DOI testimony on the Resolution, and DOI's letters to the City Council providing updates about the investigation.

The following is a statement from Commissioner Shihata, which she also provided via video that can be [viewed by clicking here](#):

"Next week, we mark 25 years since the terrorist attacks on September 11th that killed nearly 3,000 people in the United States. Here, in New York City, we remember and honor all those who died that day; those who ran toward the destruction at the Twin Towers and remained at Ground Zero; the more than 5,000 people who have died in the years since from 9/11-related cancers and illnesses; and the thousands of survivors, first responders, and recovery workers who continue to live with the lasting health effects of their exposure.

The City Council has entrusted DOI – the City's Inspector General – with investigating what the City may have known about the environmental toxins produced by the September 11th attacks.

As DOI Commissioner, I want the public to know that we take this mandate very seriously. We understand the importance of discovering the facts and issuing a public report that provides our findings. DOI remains in the preliminary stages of the investigation, and I want to update everyone on its status:

- I am very pleased to report the City has allocated a budget of \$3.81 million over this fiscal year -- and next -- to support an investigative firm with public health experience that will assist DOI in the investigation.
- DOI is in the process of procuring this firm, which DOI will manage throughout; and we hope to have the firm in place this fall.
- DOI is reaching out to key stakeholders, such as the Law Department and others, to ensure DOI is aware of all relevant information and there is no overlap in efforts.

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- And we have already begun the process of reaching out to various City agencies to secure and identify potentially relevant records.

As mandated under the City Council resolution, DOI will continue to provide updates on the status of the investigation to the City Council by June 30th and December 31st of each year.

DOI has also created a special page on its public website where you can read more on the resolution and gain access to the two letters that DOI has submitted thus far to the City Council.

I want the public to know that DOI is actively working to conduct a rigorous and thorough investigation; and that we are committed to appropriately balancing the need for transparency with the integrity of the ongoing investigation.

Thank you.”

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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