

The City of New York Department of Investigation ROSE GILL HEARN COMMISSIONER

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DOI ARRESTS HOUSING AUTHORITY EMERGENCY SERVICE AIDE ON CHARGES OF SUBMITTING FIVE FRAUDULENT MEDICAL NOTES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of a New York City Housing Authority ("NYCHA") emergency service aide on charges of submitting five forged medical notes in an attempt to justify excessive absences from work. DOI began its investigation after NYCHA reported the defendant submitted medical notes that appeared to be fraudulent. The office of Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown is prosecuting the case.

CARLA MURRAY, 36, of Brooklyn, has been charged with three counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a class D felony, and five counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a class E felony. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison and a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Submitting forged documents to the City, especially if you are an employee, is not only an unwise move, it is a crime. City employees who engage in this illegal conduct risk prosecution and their jobs."

MURRAY has been employed by NYCHA since October 2009 and was assigned to the Housing Authority's Customer Contact Center in Long Island City, Queens, and receives an annual salary of approximately \$27,677.

According to the criminal complaint, MURRAY submitted five medical notes to NYCHA, indicating she was treated at New York Methodist Hospital on five occasions in 2009 and 2010. DOI's investigation determined the defendant was not treated at the hospital on those dates and the medical notes were fraudulently created.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown and NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea, and their staffs, for their assistance on this investigation.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for NYCHA Kelvin Jeremiah and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Bergia Telesford and Special Investigator Dorothy Vann.

Assistant District Attorney Rosemary Buccheri from the Queens County District Attorney's Office has been assigned to the prosecution of the case.

A criminal complaint is merely an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. The agency investigates and refers for prosecution City employees and contractors engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities or unethical conduct. 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.