

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN

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FIRE DEPARTMENT CLERICAL ASSOCIATE CHARGED WITH FORGING MEDICAL NOTES --DOI investigation found 12 medical notes forged and submitted to the FDNY--

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of a Clerical Associate with the New York City Fire Department ("FDNY") who is charged with submitting fraudulent Civilian Medical Documentation Forms ("CMDFs") to the FDNY in order to excuse her absences from work. DOI began its investigation after being contacted by the FDNY.

TERRY JOYIENS, 51, of the Bronx, has been a FDNY employee in the Timekeeping Unit since July 2000 and earns an annual salary of \$30,446.

JOYIENS was charged Wednesday, January 9, 2008, with Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree and Tampering with Public Records in the First Degree, each a class D felony. She is also charged with Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the Fourth Degree, each a class E felony. JOYIENS was also charged with a variety of misdemeanors. If convicted, she faces up to seven years in prison.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This arrest demonstrates DOI's continued commitment to investigate sick and medical leave fraud by City employees. Last year, DOI made 13 arrests relating to this type of corruption. Employees who choose to try and scam the system in this way should know that they face arrest and other serious consequences."

According to the criminal complaint, JOYIENS submitted 12 completed FDNY CMDFs for sick time/medical leave between 2006 and 2007. Portions of the forms appeared to be completed and signed by doctors. However, DOI's investigation found that the doctors did not sign or stamp the documents and, in one case, DOI was not able to find a licensed doctor in New York State with the name or the license number indicated on the CMDF.

DOI found that JOYIENS submitted notes for more than 60 days of sick leave and was paid for 12 of those days, which has a value of approximately \$1,480. She was not paid for the remaining days.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta and his staff for their assistance and cooperation in this case.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for FDNY. The Office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the case.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are 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.

> Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.