



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**DOI ARRESTS FORMER PUBLIC SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE TEACHER FOR THEFT OF OVER \$20,000 IN WORKERS COMPENSATION CHECKS MAILED TO HIS DEAD MOTHER**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), announced today the arrest of former New York City substitute public school teacher NICHOLAS M. SCHIRALDI who failed to notify the City of his mother’s death in June of 2001, and for two years thereafter collected monthly workers compensation checks mailed to her at her residence, totaling over \$20,000.

SCHIRALDI, 51, of Queens, NY, has been charged with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony; 47 Counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a Class D Felony; 47 Counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a Class E Felony; Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, a Class E Felony, and Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, a Class E Felony. If convicted, SCHIRALDI faces up to seven years imprisonment.

DOI’s investigation uncovered that SCHIRALDI allegedly endorsed 47 workers compensation checks that were mailed to his mother after her death, each in the amount of \$430, by forging her signature, and deposited them into bank accounts he opened in her name after her death. SCHIRALDI also submitted to the New York City Law Department two forged affidavits purporting that his mother was still alive.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, “By not reporting the death of his mother and continuing to deposit her workers compensation checks, this defendant scammed the City out of thousands of dollars. Now he will have to compensate for his illegal scheme by serving time in prison.”

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Chief of the New York City Law Department’s Workers Compensation Division John Sweeney, and his staff for their assistance in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI’s First Deputy Inspector General Meera Cattafesta, Chief Investigator Daniel Lau, and Supervising Investigator Captain Vincent Valerio. The case is being prosecuted by the Office of the Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown and the matter is being handled by Assistant District Attorney Christine Burke, under the direction of Chief of the Economic Crimes Bureau, Gregory Pavildes.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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