

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

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DOI ARRESTS EMPLOYEE OF THE NEW YORK CITY OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER FOR ALLEGEDLY SUBMITTING 10 FRAUDULENT DOCTORS' NOTES --DOI investigation found more than \$4,000 in sick leave wrongfully paid to City employee--

Rose Gill Hearn, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI) announced today the results of an investigation that culminated in the arrest of NADINE BREWLEY, a Clerical Associate employed by the New York City Office of the Comptroller, for allegedly submitting 10 fraudulent doctors' notes to the City Office of the Comptroller to excuse her absences from 28 days of work. As a result of submitting the alleged fraudulent doctors' notes, BREWLEY wrongfully received salary benefits of an estimated \$4,480.

BREWLEY, 41, of Newark, NJ, was arrested on Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a class D felony; Forgery in the Second Degree, a class D felony; Forgery in the Third Degree, a class A misdemeanor; Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a class D felony; Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Third Degree, a class A misdemeanor; Tampering with Public Records in the First Degree, a class D felony; Tampering with Public Records in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor; Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor; Falsifying Business Records in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor.

If convicted, BREWLEY faces up to seven years in prison. BREWLEY has been employed with the City Office of the Comptroller since 1990 and earns an annual salary of \$43,887.

The Office of the Comptroller asked DOI to investigate in February 2007 after becoming suspicious about several doctors' notes BREWLEY submitted. DOI found that between 2003 and 2006, BREWLEY submitted 10 doctors' notes that excused her absences from 28 scheduled days of work. DOI's investigation revealed that in some cases doctors who purportedly signed the notes did not exist and in other cases BREWLEY had forged the text of the doctors' notes.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "The City's sick leave policy is intended for those who are legitimately ill, not for those who just want some free time off at the City's expense. Falsifying doctors' notes and doing so repeatedly is serious criminal conduct and a fraud against the City. DOI has seen this conduct in multiple cases in various City agencies this past year and intends to pursue this type of allegation to the fullest extent. The Comptroller's Office did exactly the right thing in referring their suspicions in this case to us for investigation."

Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr. said, "I thank my staff for their efforts in uncovering this alleged criminal conduct and the Department of Investigation's diligence in pursuing this matter. My office will not tolerate any attempts to violate the public trust by abusing the City's leave policies."

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr. and his staff for referring this matter to DOI and for their assistance and cooperation in this case.

The office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Colleen Walsh.

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 apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at 212-825-5959.