

## The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

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## DOI ARRESTS CORRECTION OFFICER CHARGED WITH MENACING AN EMT

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest today of a City Correction Officer charged with menacing and harassing a female Emergency Medical Technician ("EMT") by grabbing her arm and displaying a gravity knife while directing sexually suggestive remarks to the EMT inside a Brooklyn courthouse. At the time of the charged crime, the Correction Officer was on duty, escorting a prisoner whom the EMT was transporting from a Department of Correction ("DOC") holding area to a nearby hospital. DOI's investigation began after the EMT reported the incident to her supervisor and the police, who alerted DOI. The office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Emergency workers often confront dangerous situations, but those should never involve menacing conduct by a Correction Officer paid and sworn to protect public safety. After 23 years' employment, this officer should have known to keep his knife out of his workplace activities and his hands to himself. DOI commends the EMT for her professionalism and for speaking up about a City employee's conduct that so plainly crossed the line from offensive to criminal, according to the complaint."

Correction Officer KEVIN BARRY, 61, of Staten Island, is charged with Menacing in the Second Degree and Obstructing Governmental Administration in the Second Degree, class A misdemeanors, Menacing in the Third Degree, a class B misdemeanor, and Harassment in the Second Degree, a Violation. Upon conviction, a Class A misdemeanor is punishable by imprisonment for up to one year and a class B misdemeanor by up to three months' imprisonment.

As outlined in the criminal complaint, DOI's investigation found that on August 5, 2010, in the Criminal Court building at 120 Schermerhorn Street in Brooklyn, BARRY grabbed the EMT's arm and displayed a gravity knife while addressing sexually suggestive remarks toward her and delaying her from transporting a prisoner for medical attention.

BARRY has been employed by DOC since March, 1987 and receives an annual salary of approximately \$73,546.00. He was suspended without pay today.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DOC Commissioner Dora B. Schriro and Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes and their staffs for their assistance in the case.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of Inspector General for DOC.

A criminal complaint is 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.

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