



The City of New York
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DOI ARRESTS EMT ON COERCION AND AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT CHARGES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of an Emergency Medical Technician ("EMT") employed by a private hospital in Brooklyn on charges of harassing and coercing a patient he treated. The Brooklyn hospital is part of the City's 911 emergency system, which is overseen by the New York City Fire Department ("FDNY"). DOI began investigating after it received allegations about inappropriate conduct by the defendant. The office of Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown is prosecuting the case.

ANSAR ALI, 50, of South Ozone Park, Queens, has been charged with three counts each of Coercion in the Second Degree and Aggravated Harassment in the Second Degree, class A misdemeanors, one count of Stalking in the Fourth Degree, a class B misdemeanor, and Harassment in the Second Degree, a violation. Upon conviction, a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year's incarceration, a class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to three months incarceration, and a violation is punishable by up to 15 days incarceration.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Emergency medical responders are supposed to assist the patients under their care. Instead, this defendant is charged with abusing his position by accessing personal information to pursue and harass a patient. DOI will continue to work with its law enforcement partners to expose and stop this type of illegal and troublesome behavior."

According to the criminal complaint, on December 26, 2010, ALI responded to a 911 call and transported a female patient to a Queens' hospital, taking the patient's relevant personal information including her address and telephone number. DOI's investigation found the defendant asked the patient questions such as whether she lived alone and what hours she worked and he gave the patient a note asking if he could call her, to which the patient responded that he could not. Once the patient left the hospital, the defendant telephoned her repeatedly, told her he would call immigration authorities if she did not call him, and on January 6, 2011, the defendant knocked on the patient's door for about 90 minutes, yelling that he wanted to come inside.

ALI has been employed as an EMT with the private hospital since November 2010 and receives an annual salary of approximately \$46,865. As a result of DOI's investigation, the FDNY restricted ALI from patient care and the hospital has suspended him.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked FDNY Commissioner Salvatore J. Cassano and Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown and their staffs for their assistance on this investigation.

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

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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