



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**STATEMENT OF DOI COMMISSIONER ROSE GILL HEARN ON
INDICTMENT OF JOHN GALT'S PURCHASING AGENT IN MILLION DOLLAR THEFT**

The fire at 130 Liberty Street that killed two firefighters brought about a wide-ranging investigation by DOI and District Attorney Morgenthau's office. Our investigators took a hard look at The John Galt Corporation's billing records and found, predictably, that they were about as authentic as a \$10 Rolex. Galt's purchasing agent, Robert Chiarappa, systematically stole more than \$1 million of public money, according to the charges, by padding the bills for the supplies needed for work at the Deutsche Bank project – things such as gloves, plastic sheeting and protective gear.

Last month's indictment pertaining to the Deutsche Bank project demonstrated the fatal consequences of Galt's criminal recklessness as it relates to the fire. Today's charges are about the fraud that was taking place at the site. A one-two punch, as it were, sadly relating to one of New York's most critical public projects.

With the selection of Galt for this complex deconstruction project, the public got an unsafe work site and had its pocket picked. Two firefighters perished, and now you know the public lost money that could have been used to rebuild downtown Manhattan.

This indictment drives home the point that DOI has been making for years, that integrity and safety go hand-in-hand. It also demonstrates that publicly funded projects are not cash cows for anyone's taking and that individuals who choose to loot these projects will be held accountable.

I am thankful to District Attorney Morgenthau and his staff for their work on this investigation.

I would like to recognize DOI's investigators who worked on the case, most especially former Associate Commissioner Robert Joyce, who doggedly pursued this case literally day and night, putting the evidence together invoice by invoice, interview by interview. I commend him and the ADAs who he worked with for the result.

An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

**Get the worms out of the Big Apple.
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