



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS DCAS CONTRACTOR FOR GIVING \$6,000 IN
UNLAWFUL GRATUITIES TO DCAS EMPLOYEES**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of a contractor doing business with the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) for giving a total of \$6,000 in unlawful gratuities to two DCAS employees who oversaw a contract to repair and replace the blue slate paving stones on the plaza around Brooklyn Borough Hall.

CHOON WON LEE, 76, of Queens, has been charged with Giving Unlawful Gratuities. If convicted, Lee faces up to one year in prison.

CHOON WON LEE, the owner of FCI Group, Inc., currently has a contract with DCAS to repair and replace the blue slate paving stones at Brooklyn Borough Hall, located at 209 Joralemon Street in Brooklyn. The work on the contract was nearly complete when LEE left two envelopes, each containing \$3,000 in cash, for two of the DCAS employees who oversee FCI Group's contract. The two DCAS employees immediately reported the matter to DOI. City employees are prohibited from accepting gratuities from City contractors and members of the public for performing their job duties. The \$757,000 DCAS contract is FCI Group's only current City contract.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "By paying gratuities to the City employees assigned to oversee his contract, this contractor only succeeded in gaining a criminal record. All City contractors should be reminded that it is illegal to give any City employee money or other things of value for any reason. I commend these two employees for promptly reporting this matter to DOI."

The investigation was conducted by Assistant Commissioner and DCAS Inspector General Robert Joyce and members of his staff, including Investigator Matthew Befort. The Office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case. Assistant District Attorney Lauren Littman is handling the matter, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Leroy Frazer of the DA's Special Prosecutions Bureau.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DCAS Commissioner Martha Hirst and members of her staff for their assistance and cooperation during the investigation. In addition, Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked the members of the Manhattan District Attorney's Office Detective Squad for their assistance with the arrest.

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 directly at (212) 825-5959.*