



Department of Investigation

Press Release

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DOI ARRESTS CITY SANIT WORKER IN BRONX DRUG "STING" ***-- Sold Cocaine To Undercover Detectives --***

EDWARD J. KURIANSKY, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the felony arrest of DOMINICK VACCARO, a City Department of Sanitation (DOS) employee, for selling ¼ ounce of cocaine to DOI undercover detectives for \$260 in cash.

Commissioner Kuriansky said, "Municipal corruption of any kind has a corrosive effect on the workplace environment, demoralizes fellow employees, and erodes the trust of all New Yorkers, but nothing is more reprehensible than a City worker putting a dangerous drug out on the street."

According to Commissioner Kuriansky, DOI's investigation began in October 1999, when DOS referred allegations that VACCARO was dealing drugs.

The investigation revealed that, on the afternoon of February 24, 2000, in the White Tower restaurant parking lot at Bronx River Parkway and Bruckner Boulevard in the Melrose section of the Bronx, VACCARO, while off-duty and out of uniform, unlawfully sold about ounce of cocaine to DOI undercover detectives for \$120 in cash.

Thereafter, on the afternoon of March 29, 2000, in the same parking lot, VACCARO, again off-duty and not in uniform, allegedly sold another ounce of cocaine to DOI undercover detectives, this time for \$140 in cash.

VACCARO, 51, of the Bronx, was hired by DOS in March 1985 as a sanitation worker and is assigned to DOS Bronx East 9 garage at 850 Zerega Avenue in Unionport. He currently earns a salary of \$44,441 a year, and has been suspended without pay. VACCARO was charged with Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, both Class B felonies. If convicted, he faces up to 25 years in prison.

Commissioner Kuriansky expressed his sincere appreciation to DOS Commissioner Kevin P. Farrell and members of his staff for their cooperation and assistance in the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI Assistant Commissioner Dyana Lee and members of her staff, including DOS Deputy Inspector General Frank Florida and Confidential Investigators Kevin Grimes and Larry Rowland, and Detectives Selwart Clarke, Antoine

Dandridge, and Vinessa Toyer of DOI's Investigative Squad.

The case is being prosecuted by the Office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson. Assistant District Attorney Andrew Wein is assigned to handle the matter.