



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS BRONX RESIDENT FOR DEFRAUDING NYCHA
MORE THAN \$10K IN HOUSING SUBSIDIES**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of a New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) resident for fraudulently receiving \$10,809 in rent subsidies for an apartment located in the Throgg's Neck section of the Bronx.

DELRITA JACOBS, 46, has been charged with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree and Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree. If convicted, she faces up to seven years in prison.

JACOBS, who has been the Tenant of Record of a 4-room apartment at NYCHA's Throgg's Neck Houses since 1991, allegedly concealed from NYCHA the fact that she had worked as a Data Entry Clerk with an insurance company earning anywhere from \$14,608 to \$15,480 annually. Instead, in 2003 and 2004 JACOBS told NYCHA that her only income was child support and/or public assistance, and, as a result, paid NYCHA a much reduced rent. Instead of paying the maximum monthly rent of \$495 for her apartment, JACOBS paid anywhere from \$119 to \$146 a month in rent, thus defrauding NYCHA of \$10,809.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This defendant allegedly gave NYCHA false data in order to pay \$400 less a month in rent. In doing so, she may have deprived many other needy citizens of affordable public housing. DOI will continue to investigate and arrest those who hide their employment and/or assets from NYCHA in order to pay lower rents and to receive subsidies to which they are not entitled."

This arrest is part of an ongoing City-wide crackdown by DOI and New York area prosecutors that have resulted since 1995 in the arrest of 410 residents, including 126 City, State, and Federal employees, who were charged with stealing more than \$8.1 million in rent and welfare subsidies by hiding their income and assets from the City. So far, 322 cases have resulted in convictions and over \$4.6 million in restitution. Since January 2005, 31 individuals have been arrested for illegally receiving over \$586,000 in government housing benefits.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for NYCHA Judith F. Abruzzo and members of her staff, including Deputy Inspector Kevin Smith, Assistant Inspector General Rosemary Caruso and Special Investigator Patricia Carvajal. The Office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is prosecuting this case. Assistant District Attorney Matthew Holly, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Richard Baker of the District Attorney's Arson, Auto, and Economic Crime Unit, is handling the prosecution.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are 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.

Get the worms out of the Big Apple.
To report someone ripping off the city, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.