



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
COMMISSIONER

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**[nyc.gov/html/doi](http://nyc.gov/html/doi)**

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**EMT ARRESTED FOR TRYING TO STEAL \$600 FROM PATIENT**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), and Raymond Kelly, Commissioner of the New York City Police Department announced the felony arrest of Joseph Alimena, an Emergency Medical Technician employed by the New York City Fire Department.

Alimena, 28, of Mamaroneck, was arrested just after midnight at the end of his tour. Alimena was charged with Falsifying Business Records, Petit Larceny, Criminal Possession of a Weapon, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property and two counts of Official Misconduct. If convicted, he faces up to four years in jail.

In response to allegations from patients who claimed they lost money or property while in Alimena's care, DOI initiated an integrity test on Alimena, who is assigned to EMS Battalion 20 at Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx. Two undercover officers, one posing as a livery cab driver, the other as a patient in distress, flagged Alimena's ambulance. While being treated in the back of the ambulance, the undercover/patient removed his fictitious identification from his pocket and allowed \$600 in marked bills to fall on the floor. After several minutes, Alimena was observed picking the money up and placing it into his pocket.

The undercover/patient was transported to Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx and refused medical treatment. After Alimena left the emergency room, he returned to his Battalion where investigators observed him returning to his personal vehicle. At the end of Alimena's tour, investigators pulled him over and asked for his license, registration and insurance card. As he tried to grab these items from a compartment in his car, investigators spied the wad of missing cash.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Commissioner Kelly and FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta for their assistance and cooperation in this case.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's office of the Inspector General for FDNY and the Internal Affairs Bureau of the NYPD. The office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is handling the case, Assistant District Attorney Denise Kodjo will prosecute.

Criminal complaints are merely accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

*Get the worms out of the apple.  
To report someone ripping off the City, call 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.*