



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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TESTS TAKEN FOR FREE
-City exam candidate falsified fee waivers -

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), today announced the felony arrest of Francis Wang, a candidate for 29 exams administered by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS). While claiming to be a public assistance recipient even though his benefits had ceased, Wang allegedly obtained fraudulent waivers for over \$900.00 worth of DCAS exam fees, which range between \$35.00 to \$50.00 per exam.

Wang, 38, of Manhattan, was arrested today and charged with Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree and Petit Larceny. If convicted, Wang faces up to 4 years in jail.

DOI began its investigation after DCAS reported that Wang allegedly continued to file for exam fee waivers after his public assistance benefits had ceased. Individuals who receive public assistance are entitled to an exam fee waiver when they submit a copy of their public assistance benefit card to DCAS. Wang was a public assistance recipient from August 16, 1997 to November 31, 1997. However, from 1998 until September 2002, Wang continued to take and receive waivers for numerous exams, including Police Officer, Correction Officer, and Train Operator. He submitted a benefits card to obtain these waivers even though he was no longer receiving public assistance. To date, he has not received any City jobs.

The investigation was conducted by Robert Joyce, DOI's Inspector General for DCAS, and members of his staff, including Assistant Inspector General Mary Kozlow, and former Investigator Christie Mingoia.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DCAS Commissioner Martha Hirst and the members of her staff for their assistance and cooperation during the investigation. As a result of the investigation, DCAS and the Human Resources Administration have created a compatible system to verify that exam candidates who apply for exam fee waivers are indeed public assistance recipients.

The Office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case. Assistant District Attorney Douglas P. Kaufman is handling the matter, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Leroy Frazer, of the DA's Special Prosecutions Bureau.

Criminal complaints are merely an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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To make complaints about someone ripping off the City, call 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.

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