



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS MAN FOR POSING AS HIS DEAD FATHER SO HE
COULD GET A CRANE OPERATOR'S LICENSE**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner for the Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the felony arrest of Raymond C. Fernandez for allegedly filing a fraudulent application to renew a Hoisting Machine Operator's License, which gives individuals permission to operate cranes in the City.

Mr. Fernandez, 46, of Palm Coast, Florida, has been charged with Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a 'D' Felony; Offering a False Instrument in the First Degree, an 'E' Felony, and Identity Theft in the Second Degree, an 'E' Felony. If convicted, he faces up to seven years in prison.

"I congratulate the alert DOB employee who noticed Mr. Fernandez' deceptive maneuverings, which, if successful, could have had dire consequences," said DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn. "The City licenses individuals who operate cranes and other machinery for good reason. Doing so protects the lives of pedestrians and construction workers."

DOI began its investigation after an employee from the Department of Buildings' Licensing Division noticed a discrepancy on an application to renew a Hoisting Machine Operator's license. The employee noticed that the picture on the application was of a man much younger than he would have appeared if he had been born in 1922 as the application indicated.

DOI investigators determined that Raymond C. Fernandez had attempted to renew his father Raymond M. Fernandez's license while substituting some of his own pedigree information. Raymond C. Fernandez applied for and failed the test for the license in 1989. The father, Raymond M. Fernandez died on July 6, 1998.

Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked Department of Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster, AIA, and members of her staff for their assistance and cooperation in the investigation.

Examining Attorney Derek Pieper conducted this investigation under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner Robert Roach and Deputy Inspector General Joseph Ferraro. Belinda Colon, of the DOB Investigations and Disciplinary Unit also assisted with this case. The office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is handling the case with Assistant District Attorney Dustin Chao prosecuting.

Criminal Complaints are merely an accusation. 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 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.*