



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

Release #114-2008
nyc.gov/html/doi

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2008**

**CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931**

**DOI ARRESTS CITY CORRECTION OFFICER CHARGED WITH FALSIFYING DOCTOR'S NOTE
AND STEALING APPROXIMATELY \$1,600 IN SICK PAY**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest of CAROLYN COLTER, a Correction Officer with the New York City Department of Correction ("DOC"), on charges of submitting a false "physician's summary report" to DOC in August of 2006 and receiving approximately \$1,600 in sick pay she was not entitled to collect. The office of Queens County District Attorney Richard A. Brown is prosecuting the case.

COLTER, 41, of Brooklyn, N.Y., was charged with Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a class D felony, and Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree and Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, which are class E felonies. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison and a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison.

COLTER has been employed with DOC as a Correction Officer since 1996 and currently receives an annual salary of \$68,457. She was suspended today without pay.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Altering a doctor's note to collect extra sick pay is a foolish strategy. That kind of conduct squanders taxpayer dollars and will not be tolerated."

DOI investigated the matter based on a report from DOC.

According to the criminal complaint, on August 21, 2006, COLTER submitted a "physician's summary report" to DOC's Health Management Division in Queens. The report, dated Aug. 2, 2006, indicated COLTER had been examined by a physician and could return to work on August 18, 2006 on light duty. The investigation found that while the physician had examined COLTER, the physician had indicated on the report COLTER could return to work eight days earlier, on August 10, 2006.

DOI's investigation found that based on the false document, COLTER received approximately \$1,600 in sick pay she was not entitled to receive.

On Wednesday, December 10, 2008, DOI arrested another Correction Officer on charges of falsifying doctors' notes and, in that case, stealing thousands in sick pay. The press release on that arrest can be found at the following link: http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/pdf/pr111williams_121008.pdf.

more

DOI thanked DOC Commissioner Martin F. Horn and his staff, including Warden Juan Quinones, Commanding Officer of the Health Management Division, for their assistance in the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General, Correctional Services Unit.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Daniel J. O'Leary of the office of the Queens County District Attorney, under the direction of James M. Liander, Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau.

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.**