



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**DOI ARRESTS SECURITY GUARD CHARGED WITH TAKING CASH  
AT CITY BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT OFFICE FOR REDUCING CONTRACTORS' WAITING TIMES**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest of CARROLL HENRY, a guard employed by a City-contracted security firm, on charges of collecting cash payoffs of up to \$60 for moving individuals up on a waiting list for home contractors required for the first time to register with the City Department of Buildings ("DOB"). DOI investigators arrested HENRY at the DOB Licensing Division office at 280 Broadway in lower Manhattan on Monday, December 29, 2008, after investigating a tip from DOB.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "A corrupt gatekeeper, ready to manipulate a waiting list at a City licensing office for cash, as charged here, sends the worst message imaginable to contractors just being introduced to City regulation. This arrest lets everyone know that it is a crime that will result in arrest and a possible prison sentence."

HENRY, 56, of Brooklyn, was charged with Receiving Reward for Official Misconduct in the Second Degree, a class E felony, and Receiving Unlawful Gratuities, a class A misdemeanor. Upon conviction, a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison and a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year's incarceration. HENRY was arraigned yesterday and was released on his own recognizance. The Office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case.

HENRY has been employed by Allied Barton International for two years and was lately assigned as a security guard at DOB's Licensing Division. His most recent annual salary was approximately \$25,760. He has been removed from his DOB assignment.

A recently enacted law requires that as of November 2008 general contractors building residential units within the City for occupancy by three or fewer families register with DOB. Thousands of contractors have been making appointments with DOB in order to file the necessary papers.

According to the criminal complaint, HENRY maintained a list of individuals seeking to speak with DOB clerks at the Licensing Division office at 280 Broadway. Everyone was supposed to be listed on a first-come, first-served basis. The investigation found that for more than a month HENRY was accepting cash payments for placing individuals at the head of the list, bypassing others, and that he gave out his telephone number to enable prospective customers to call ahead and be placed at the front of the line. Part way through one particular day, HENRY acknowledged that he had already collected \$100, according to the complaint.

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The investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for DOB Michael Carroll and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Edward Zinser, Assistant Inspector General Byron Biggerstaff and Special Investigator Sadie Lopez.

DOI Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DOB Commissioner Robert LiMandri and District Attorney Morgenthau and their staffs, for their assistance in this investigation.

The New York County District Attorney's Office is prosecuting the case, which has been assigned to Assistant District Attorney Lucrece Francois-Dubrovsky.

Criminal complaints are merely 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.**