



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI ARRESTS FORMER CITY EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH IMPERSONATING A DOI OFFICER
--DOI arrested same man in 2008 for carrying an unlicensed, loaded firearm into the FDNY--

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest of ADRIAN BEST, a former City employee, on charges that he falsely claimed to be a DOI Detective investigating an employee of the City Administration for Children's Services ("ACS"). The office of Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown is prosecuting the case.

BEST, 39, of Queens, was arrested late Monday, February 2, 2009, and was charged with Criminal Impersonation in the Second Degree and Aggravated Harassment in the Second Degree, class A misdemeanors. Upon conviction a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year's incarceration.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Impersonating a DOI law enforcement officer is a surefire way to attract our immediate attention and face swift arrest and prosecution. I am thankful that ACS immediately reported last week's incident to DOI so investigators could quickly stop this charged criminal conduct."

According to the criminal complaint, on Friday, January 30, 2009, BEST called a supervisor at ACS in Jamaica, Queens and identified himself as "Detective Wilson" of DOI, said he was investigating one of the ACS employees for time abuse and asked if the employee was reporting to work and what time the employee arrived. BEST told the ACS supervisor that he was in front of the building and would be entering the office to search the ACS employee's desk. BEST is not an investigator with DOI and had no legitimate purpose for contacting the ACS supervisor.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Investigative Squad of New York City Police Department detectives and DOI's Office of the Inspector General for ACS.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked District Attorney Brown for his office's assistance.

Today's arrest is the second time BEST has been charged as a result of a DOI investigation. In July 2008, DOI arrested BEST on charges of bringing in a loaded, 9 mm pistol into his work location at the headquarters of the City Fire Department ("FDNY") in Brooklyn. At the time, BEST was a civilian employee with the FDNY. DOI's investigation found BEST was not licensed to carry a firearm. He was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a class C felony, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Fourth Degree, a class A misdemeanor, and his case is pending in Kings County Supreme

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Court. DOI's press release on the matter can be found at the following link: http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/pdf/pr72best_72608.pdf.

In September 2008, BEST resigned from his civilian position with the FDNY's Bureau of Candidate Investigations.

The gun investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for the Fire Department, with assistance from FDNY's Bureau of Fire Investigations. The office of Brooklyn District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the gun case.

Criminal complaints and indictments 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.**