



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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Release 67-2003
nyc.gov/html/doi

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2003

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DOI ARRESTS CITY CORRECTION OFFICER FOR GRAND LARCENY

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), announced today the arrest of Correction Officer ROBERT CASTRO for allegedly falsifying Department of Correction (DOC) time records so he could receive approximately \$20,000 in unearned income.

CASTRO, 52, of Valley Stream, New York, has been charged with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree and Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument, both Class D Felonies. If convicted, he faces up to seven years imprisonment. MR. CASTRO, a Correction Officer since April 1984, is currently on terminal leave pending his retirement.

DOI began its investigation after receiving a tip from a DOC staffer who noticed that MR. CASTRO had earned a lot of overtime pay but was rarely ever seen actually working overtime. DOI investigators compared MR. CASTRO’s time sheets with other relevant DOC records and discovered that for more than a year MR. CASTRO had submitted time sheets listing unearned overtime hours with forged signatures indicating his supervisors’ approval.

“MR. CASTRO’s conduct is an affront to every diligent and honest Correction Officer who works overtime to earn extra money,” said DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn. “Those honest officers can be assured that DOI will track down everyone who abuses the system and takes money that isn’t rightfully earned. In a time of diminishing financial resources, MR. CASTRO’s conduct is particularly appalling.”

The investigation was conducted by Michael Caruso, DOI’s Inspector General for the Department of Correction, and members of his staff. The Office of the Bronx County District Attorney is handling the case. Assistant District Attorney Dennis Consumano will prosecute under the direction of Bureau Chief Thomas Leahy of the Rackets and Investigation Division.

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

One of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country, DOI 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.

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To report someone ripping off the city, call 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.