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**STATEMENT FROM DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATION COMMISSIONER ROSE GILL HEARN
AND DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION COMMISSIONER MARTIN F. HORN
ON THE INDICTMENT AND ARREST OF A CORRECTION OFFICER ON INMATE ASSAULT CHARGES**

**Joint statement from the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI")
and the Department of Correction ("DOC")**

This matter came to light after a Warden at the New York City Department of Correction ("DOC") alerted the Department of Investigation ("DOI") about the matter. The Warden's action is a demonstration of how seriously DOC takes the safety of its inmates and its obligation to report to DOI wrongdoing and potential criminal conduct. The investigation of the allegations by DOI culminated in the indictment and arrest of Correction Officer Lloyd Nicholson. As a Correction Officer, Nicholson was charged with upholding the law. Instead, the investigation showed that he ordered the beating of two inmates and that Nicholson personally assaulted a third inmate. These charges show DOI's commitment to investigate allegations of abuse of inmates. Correction Officers who choose to compromise their integrity in this way should know that DOI and DOC will continue to be vigilant in rooting out this kind of malfeasance.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This Correction Officer was supposed to maintain order at the correctional facility. Instead, these charges stem from an investigation that showed that he used force and violence during his tours of duty and brazenly manipulated adolescent inmates to do his bidding in exchange for favors. These allegations do not represent the many Correction Officers who serve in the prisons with integrity, which is underscored by the fact that a Warden stepped forward to alert DOI about the scheme. DOI was pleased to help bring justice to the inmates who were beaten and remains committed to working with its law enforcement partners to root out this type of criminal conduct."

DOC Commissioner Martin F. Horn said, "If true, these charges tarnish the good work and the well-deserved reputation of the vast majority of our officers who do their jobs conscientiously every day. The Department of Correction will not tolerate the kind of behavior alleged in this case. We are gratified by the principled work of jail staff who brought this case to the Department of Investigation."