FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2008

DOI ARRESTS EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN ON CHARGES OF SEXUALLY ABUSING AND HARASSING A PATIENT IN HIS CARE

--According to criminal complaint, incident took place on December 11, 2007--

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (“DOI”), announced the arrest of TERRANCE HARDY, an Emergency Medical Technician (“EMT”) employed by the New York City Fire Department (“FDNY”), on charges he fondled a female patient on December 11, 2007 in the back of the ambulance while it was enroute to the hospital in the Bronx. According to the criminal complaint, HARDY fondled the patient on two occasions during the ride to the hospital and touched her inappropriately on her back.

HARDY, 34, of Yonkers, N.Y., has been charged with two counts of Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree, a class B misdemeanor, and three counts of Harassment in the Second Degree, a criminal violation. If convicted, he faces up to three months in jail. He has been an EMT with the FDNY since June 2000 and earns an annual salary of approximately $41,100.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, “The charges in this case reflect reprehensible conduct. As an EMT, this individual was supposed to provide care for his patient. Instead, DOI’s investigation showed he betrayed his authority as well as the trust his patient and the City placed in him. I commend the patient for coming forward so quickly to report these serious allegations.”

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta for his and his staff’s assistance and cooperation in this case.

This investigation was conducted by DOI’s Office of the Inspector General for FDNY. Assistant District Attorney Danielle Pascale from the Office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson is prosecuting.

Criminal complaints are merely an accusation. 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.

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