



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS CITY PARKS DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR ON CHARGES OF
MOLESTING TWO JOB TRAINEES IN BROOKLYN**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of ROTHSCCHILD JEAN-BAPTISTE, an employee of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR"), on charges of molesting two workers of the Job Training Participants ("JTP") program whom he supervised. The office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the case.

JEAN-BAPTISTE, 49, of Brooklyn, is charged with three counts of Forcible Touching, a class A misdemeanor, and two counts of Harassment in the Second Degree, a violation. Upon conviction, a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year's incarceration.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This defendant was supposed to train and help people prepare for employment. Instead, as this complaint charges, he abused his supervisory position and molested two subordinates. I thank the Parks Department for immediately referring these allegations of sexual misconduct to DOI."

JEAN-BAPTISTE is a Crew Chief who oversees JTPs in Brooklyn area City parks, has been a DPR employee for approximately seven years and receives an annual salary of \$42,357. JTPs are part of the Parks Opportunity Program ("POP"), which trains participants in skills such as security, custodial, clerical and fix-it services. The six-month training program has approximately 3,000 trainees working in City parks, playgrounds and recreation centers and prepares them for private sector careers.

DOI's investigation began after DPR notified DOI in March 2008 about allegations involving inappropriate sexual conduct by JEAN-BAPTISTE.

According to the criminal complaint, in December 2007, JEAN-BAPTISTE forcibly touched and grabbed at a female trainee at a shed in a City park at 53rd Street and Fort Hamilton Parkway in Brooklyn. In March 2008, JEAN-BAPTISTE kissed and touched a second female trainee in a van in Brooklyn without her consent.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DPR Commissioner Adrian Benepe and Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes, and their staffs, for their assistance with the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DPR.

The case has been assigned to Assistant District Attorney Marisa Mercandetti of the office of the Kings County District Attorney.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is 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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To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.**