



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS NYCHA CARETAKER WHO FORGED DOCTOR'S NOTES
TO TRY TO JUSTIFY HIS EXCESSIVE ABSENCES FROM WORK**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of New York City Housing Authority ("NYCHA") employee KASSAN JONES, for allegedly submitting three forged doctor's notes to NYCHA in an attempt to justify his excessive absences from work.

JONES, 24, a resident of NYCHA's Forest Houses in the Bronx since 1988, will be charged with Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree and Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree. If convicted, he faces up to seven years in prison.

JONES, a NYCHA Caretaker since 1999 who is currently assigned to NYCHA's Butler Houses in the Bronx, had been disciplined in the past for his excessive absences and lateness. For example, in a four-month period alone, Jones was disciplined for being ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE six times and late to work 29 times. He allegedly submitted three false doctor's notes in an attempt to justify his absences from work on January 10, 2004; December 20, 2004; and March 10, 2005. The notes were allegedly signed by a Doctor from Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. DOI investigators determined that the Doctor has not been affiliated with Columbia since September 2003, and she did not complete and/or sign the notes Jones had submitted to NYCHA.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This defendant is the third NYCHA employee DOI has arrested this year for forging doctor's notes. These defendants would be wise to learn that pretending to be sick is child's play, and forging documents is an adult matter with serious consequences that include jail time."

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked NYCHA's Butler Houses staff for their assistance in the investigation.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for NYCHA, Judith F. Abruzzo and members of her staff, including Deputy Inspector General Bergia Telesford, Assistant Inspector General James Hylton, Confidential Investigator Emily Bizzarro and Assistant Counsel Lauren Hintz.

The Office of Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorney Richard Baker, Chief of the Arson, Auto, Economic Crimes Unit.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty

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