



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
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**DOI ARRESTS GENERAL CONTRACTING SUPERVISOR AT MANHATTAN JOB SITE ON BRIBERY CHARGE**  
***-This is the second individual arrested as a result of a DOI undercover investigation-***

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of MOHAMMAD BUTT, a Supervisor at Fedco Construction & Painting, Inc., on charges of offering a bribe and giving a worker \$1,000 to use as a bribe to a DOI undercover investigator posing as an Inspector for the City Department of Buildings ("DOB"). The money was offered and paid to avoid violations and a Stop Work Order at a Manhattan job, according to the criminal complaint. The office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This is the second arrest in this case that began with a tip from a DOB inspector. These arrests should drive home the message that bribing buildings inspectors isn't the way to do business in New York City."

BUTT, 46, of the Bronx, is charged with Bribery in the Third Degree, a class D felony; Rewarding Official Misconduct in the Second Degree, a class E felony; and Giving Unlawful Gratuities, a class A misdemeanor. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison, a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison and a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year's incarceration.

DOI began its investigation after a DOB Inspector reported that an employee of Deluxe Home Improvement Corporation had offered the inspector a bribe to overlook safety violations on the job. The DOB Inspector refused the offer and reported it to DOI. That same day, DOI sent an undercover investigator to the jobsite posing as a DOB Inspector. As a result of the investigation, earlier this month, DOI arrested Mohammed Kalam, an employee of Brooklyn-based Deluxe Home Improvement Corporation, for paying a \$1,000 bribe to a DOI undercover investigator. Kalam was charged with Bribery in the Third Degree and related offenses, and his case is pending in court. DOI's release on this matter can be found at the following link: [http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/pdf/pr40kalam\\_50109.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/pdf/pr40kalam_50109.pdf).

According to the criminal complaint, DOI's investigation found that BUTT gave Kalam \$1,000 to pay off the DOI investigator posing as a DOB inspector in exchange for the inspector's not issuing a stop work order and violations at the job site.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked DOB Commissioner Robert LiMandri and New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau, and their staffs, for their assistance in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for DOB Michael Carroll and members of his staff.

The case has been assigned to Assistant District Attorney James Roberts of the New York County District Attorney's Office.

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

**Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.**