



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI ARRESTS WOMAN FOR ACCEPTING BRIBE TO ALTER DRUG TEST RESULTS
-- Woman flushed money down the toilet when DOI investigators arrived to arrest her --

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of ADA STEPHEN for accepting a \$100 bribe from a DOI undercover investigator to alter drug test results. STEPHEN worked as a technician for Bay Park Medical/Occupational Health Services, located at 794 Union Street in Brooklyn, where she collected urine samples as part of pre-employment testing of all job applicants – such as truck drivers, maintenance workers, secretaries, directors, administrators and community associates – for the New York City Housing Authority.

STEPHEN, 41, of Brooklyn, will be charged with Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, Tampering with Evidence, Commercial Bribe Receiving in the Second Degree, Falsifying Business Records in the Second Degree, Forgery in the Third Degree, and Obstructing Governmental Administration in the Second Degree. If convicted, she faces up to four years in prison.

DOI's investigation began when a woman whose daughter was applying for a job with the New York City Housing Authority reported that STEPHEN had asked for hundreds of dollars to alter the daughter's test results so that it would not indicate drug use. DOI sent an undercover investigator to the collection facility where STEPHEN worked to undergo drug testing. The undercover brought with him a urine sample DOI obtained from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner that was known to contain narcotics and thus would test positive for drugs. When the undercover met with STEPHEN, he indicated he was anxious he might test positive for drugs. The undercover went into the bathroom and poured the dirty urine into the specimen cup. Afterwards, STEPHEN indicated to the undercover that he had tested positive and, in substance, stated that for \$100 it would pass and the results would be sent immediately to NYCHA. STEPHEN accepted the \$100 and indicated on lab paperwork that the undercover had passed the test. STEPHEN later admitted to the arresting officers that she had flushed the \$100 down the toilet.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Vendors who do drug testing for the City should be warned: You will be caught if you tamper with drug test results and there will be serious consequences. All City employees subject to drug testing should know that these tests are not a game and tampering with the results is illegal." The Commissioner praised the investigators for their excellent work and thanked Chief Medical Examiner Dr. Charles S. Hirsch, M.D. for his assistance.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for NYCHA Judith Abruzzo and members of her staff including Counsel to the Inspector General Karen Cohen, Deputy Inspector General Steven Gruberger, Chief Investigators Irwin Shanberg and Martina Mercaldo, and Special Investigator Charles Alexander. The office of Brooklyn District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is handling the case.

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.*