



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS MAN FOR ALLEGEDLY POSSESSING A FAKE DOI PARKING PLACARD
--Phony parking placard was a different color than the original and expired in 2005--**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of a maintenance worker with a private Manhattan company for allegedly using a forged DOI parking placard.

DAVID HERNANDEZ was arrested after DOI investigators saw what appeared to be a forged DOI parking placard on the dashboard of a car registered to HERNANDEZ. HERNANDEZ told investigators that he found the placard on the street. He gave the placard to investigators and apologized to them saying it was "a big mistake." DOI investigators determined the parking placard was a fake because it was a different color than DOI's parking placard. In addition, the placard HERNANDEZ displayed had expired in 2005.

HERNANDEZ, 47, of Brooklyn, was arrested today on Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, a class D felony. If convicted, he faces up to 7 years in prison.

Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This arrest comes as the Mayor is trying to combat traffic congestion in the City and at a time when parking is at a premium. Forging a City parking placard to secure free parking is not just a crime it adds to the bottlenecks already clogging New York City streets. As this arrest shows, DOI will pursue those who choose to participate in this type of illegal conduct."

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General's Office for Department of Parks & Recreation, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Vincent E. Green and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Theresa Land-Latta, Special Investigator Herman Haynes and Assistant Inspector General Belarminia Ortiz.

The Office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case.

Criminal complaints are accusations. 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.

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