



The City of New York
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DOI ARRESTS PHYSICIAN ON CHARGE OF CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH FEMALE INMATE ON RIKERS ISLAND

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today that a physician who has worked for 12 years at Rikers Island has been arrested on a charge of criminal sexual conduct with a female inmate. FRANCK LEVEILLE, M.D., employed by PHS Medical Services, P.C., a private company, was supposed to examine the victim at the Rose M. Singer Center ("RMSC") at the time of the charged incident in March 2010. DOI's investigation began that month, when the City Department of Correction ("DOC") forwarded an allegation of prohibited sexual contact between an inmate and a facility doctor. Under New York law, an inmate in a correctional facility is legally incapable of consenting to sexual activity with an employee or contractor providing services to inmates at the facility. The investigation leading to today's arrest was conducted jointly by DOI and the office of Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, which is prosecuting the case. DOI detectives and investigators arrested LEVEILLE at his office in Brooklyn this morning.

PHS Medical Services, P.C., is a private patient care company that contracts with the City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ("DOHMH") and provides correctional health services in the City's jails. Under the contract, Prison Health Services, Inc. (PHS) provides administrative services to PHS Medical Services, P.C.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This physician is charged with exploiting an inmate in his care, according to the criminal complaint, and violating his fundamental professional responsibility. Appropriately, when the allegation of abuse surfaced, the Correction Department promptly alerted DOI, and our investigators worked with the Bronx District Attorney's Office to uncover the disturbing facts charged in the complaint. DOI will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to ensure that inmates are protected and abuses are exposed."

FRANCK LEVEILLE, M.D., 60, of Rockville Center, N.Y., has been charged with one count each of Criminal Sexual Act in the Third Degree, a class E felony, and Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree, a class B misdemeanor. Upon conviction, a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison and a class B misdemeanor by up to three months incarceration.

According to the criminal complaint, at about 2 a.m. on March 28, 2010 at RMSC, LEVEILLE touched a female inmate without her consent and engaged the inmate in a criminal sexual act without her consent.

When the allegation was reported to DOI, LEVEILLE was immediately removed from inmate contact and has been assigned since then to administrative duties. LEVEILLE has been licensed as a physician in New York State since 1993 and has been employed on Rikers Island since January 1998 through City-contracted correctional health services vendors. Currently, he works part-time for PHS Medical Services, P.C. For his work at Rikers Island, LEVEILLE is paid \$69.17 per hour and has received approximately \$53,621 since January 2010.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, DOC Commissioner Dora B. Schiro, and DOHMH Commissioner Dr. Thomas Farley, and members of their staffs, for their assistance in this investigation.

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The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOC and DOI's squad of New York City Police Department detectives, with assistance from DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOHMH.

Assistant District Attorney Catherine Slattery of the Bronx District Attorney's Office has been assigned to the prosecution of the case.

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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