



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

Release #61-2008
nyc.gov/html/doi

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2008

CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931

**STATEMENT FROM THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATION ("DOI")
ON THE INDICTMENT OF FORMER CRANES & DERRICKS INSPECTOR EDWARD MARQUETTE**
--Indictment charges Marquette with falsifying his inspection route sheet on three occasions--

The indictment of EDWARD MARQUETTE, a former Cranes & Derricks Inspector with the Department of Buildings ("DOB"), stems from DOI's arrest of MARQUETTE in March 2008 on charges that he falsely claimed that he inspected the East 51st Street crane on March 4, 2008 prior to its collapse. After that arrest, DOI reviewed MARQUETTE's inspection reports dating back to September 2007 and found two additional false entries. The indictment charges that he falsified his DOB inspector's route sheet regarding two dates in January 2008 and the March 4, 2008 inspection.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This indictment and the joint efforts of DOI and the Manhattan District Attorney's Office demonstrate that there is zero tolerance for City inspectors, or any employees, who compromise public safety by shirking their responsibility and falsifying official records. Crane inspectors perform the crucial task of ensuring that cranes operate safely in this City and, as this indictment charges, Mr. Marquette fell far short of that obligation. DOI will continue to work with its law enforcement partners and DOB to make it clear that with respect to inspections and public records, honesty is the only acceptable policy."

The 12-count indictment charges MARQUETTE with three counts each of Tampering with Public Records in the First Degree, a class D felony; Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree and Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, class E felonies; and Official Misconduct, a class A misdemeanor. Conviction of a class D felony can result in a prison sentence of up to seven years.

MARQUETTE was arraigned today in Manhattan Supreme Court and released on his own recognizance.

The investigation was conducted by Michael Carroll, DOI's Inspector General for DOB, and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Edward Zinser and Chief Investigator Byron Biggerstaff, under the direction of DOI Associate Commissioner John B. Kantor. The Buildings Special Investigations Unit assisted with the investigation.

The office of New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau is prosecuting the case, which is assigned to the Rackets Bureau.

An indictment is merely 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.

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