



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS FIREFIGHTER FOR FALSELY CLAIMING TO BE AT PHYSICAL THERAPY AND
COLLECTING APPROXIMATELY \$7,500 IN PAY HE WAS NOT ENTITLED TO RECEIVE
--DOI has arrested five City employees since June 2008 on similar charges--**

Rose Gill Hearn, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI") announced today the arrest of JOHN DIMINO, a Firefighter First Grade and an 18-year employee of the New York City Fire Department ("FDNY"), on charges he falsely indicated in a FDNY log book that he was leaving work to attend physical therapy and collected approximately \$7,500 in pay, but did not attend the physical therapy sessions. DOI began its investigation after it was contacted by the FDNY.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Employees who intentionally falsify City records to collect pay they are not entitled to receive are committing a crime and siphoning away precious taxpayer dollars. The City has zero tolerance for it. In fact, since June, DOI has arrested five City employees on similar charges. I thank the FDNY for alerting DOI about this matter."

DIMINO has been a firefighter since 1990 and earns an annual salary of approximately \$68,470. Since the beginning of June 2008, DOI has arrested four other City employees – two FDNY employees and two employees of the City's Human Resources Administration -- on similar charges of falsifying City records, in those instances, to obtain sick pay. The press release on those four arrests can be found at the following link: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doi/pdf/67notes07-17-2008.pdf>.

DIMINO, 45, of Staten Island, was charged today with Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a class D felony, Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, a class E felony, and Falsifying Business Records in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor. Conviction of a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison; conviction of a class E felony is punishable by up to four years in prison and conviction of a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to a year in jail.

According to the criminal complaint, between August 2007 and February 2008, DIMINO signed the FDNY's Command Log on multiple occasions indicating that he was leaving work to attend physical therapy sessions. DOI's investigation found that DIMINO did not attend physical therapy on those occasions.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta and his staff for their assistance and cooperation in this case.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for FDNY.

The office of Richmond County District Attorney Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. is prosecuting the case, which has been assigned to Assistant District Attorney Mark Palladino.

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.