



**The City of New York
Department of Investigation**

ROSE GILL HEARN

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**DOI ARRESTS SON OF NYCHA TENANT WHO ALLEGEDLY FORGED RESIDENT
PARKING PERMITS**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced today the arrest of MICHAEL SCHIPANI for allegedly forging two New York City Housing Authority ("NYCHA") resident parking permit stickers.

SCHIPANI, 32, who is not a NYCHA tenant and lives in Lindenhurst, N.Y., was charged Thursday with two counts each of Forgery in the third degree and Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the third degree. The charges are each class A misdemeanors. If convicted, he faces up to one year in prison.

DOI received a tip from a fast-thinking office supply store employee who reported to DOI that SCHIPANI, the son of a tenant at Rutgers Houses on the Lower East Side, sought advice on how to photocopy or reproduce a 2006 NYCHA resident parking permit sticker. DOI investigators later determined that SCHIPANI allegedly created 2005 and 2006 resident parking permit stickers using his home computer and items he purchased from office supply stores. The numbers on the forged permit stickers, which were affixed to a gray 2003 Acura registered in his name, indicated they were issued to other NYCHA tenants in the development. The permit stickers allowed SCHIPANI to park his vehicle in the Rutgers Houses' resident lot and avoid the difficulty and expense of finding a parking space in the congested Lower East Side neighborhood.

NYCHA issues parking permit stickers, which cost \$75 each, to tenants who have cars registered to their household. Each permit contains a number which allows NYCHA to identify which vehicle belongs to a particular tenant.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked Chief of Detectives Kenneth Rau from the Suffolk County Police Department for his assistance in the investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for NYCHA, Robert J. McSweeney, and members of his staff, including Deputy Inspector General Ralph Iannuzzi, Assistant Inspector General Anthony Capek and Chief Investigator John Reatz.

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.

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