FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2006

DOI ARRESTS PARAMEDIC FOR FORGED MEDICAL NOTES

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of KAY LINCOLN, a paramedic employed by the New York City Fire Department (FDNY), Emergency Medical Service (EMS), for submitting seven fraudulent Civilian Medical Documentation Forms to the FDNY to excuse her absences from work.

Lincoln, 42, of Manhattan, an EMS employee since 1994, earning an annual salary of $47,126, has been charged with Forgery in the Second and Third Degree, Tampering with Public Records in the First Degree, Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Third Degree, Falsifying Business Records in the Second Degree, Offering a False Instrument in the Second Degree and Official Misconduct. If convicted, she faces up to 7 years in prison.

Commissioner Gill Hearn said, “New Yorkers rely on paramedics to help the sick and injured. This paramedic only tried to help herself by fraudulently attempting to pad her City paycheck for illegitimate sick days. This is not only an affront to all honest civil servants, it is a crime.”

On seven separate occasions between February 12, 2005 and March 28, 2006, Lincoln, assigned to Battalion 8 at Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan, submitted an FDNY Civilian Medical Documentation Form to her supervisor, purportedly signed by her own physician, stating that Lincoln was ill and had visited her doctor on the date indicated, which coincided with days she missed from work. DOI’s investigation revealed that Lincoln was not at her doctor’s office on the dates she claimed and that the forms, each containing a different date, were photocopies of an original form containing the physician’s signature and stamp.

Lincoln is the third arrest in the past month of EMS employees for submitting forged medical documentation forms. On June 1, 2006, DOI announced that Keisha Brockington, 31, of Staten Island, an EMS employee since October 1999, was arrested on felony and misdemeanor charges for submitting eight forged medical forms to her supervisor. (Release # 45) On May 25, 2006, Robert Brown, 23, of New Windsor, New York, an EMS employee since January 2005, was arrested and charged with various misdemeanors for submitting two forged medical documentation forms to his supervisor. (Release # 43)

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

This investigation was conducted by DOI’s office of the Inspector General for the FDNY. Lincoln will be prosecuted by the office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.