



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI ARRESTS MAN FOR TRYING TO BRIBE CITY BUILDINGS INSPECTOR

DOI Commissioner ROSE GILL HEARN announced today the arrest of MOHAMEED SHABBIR for allegedly paying a Department of Buildings (DOB) inspector three payments totaling \$1,600 to overlook violations for unlicensed plumbing work and for working without a permit at a Brooklyn apartment building and to erase from DOB's computer system outstanding violations that had been issued to other property in Queens.

SHABBIR, 49, of Brooklyn, has been charged with Bribery in the Third Degree and Rewarding Official Misconduct in the Second Degree. If convicted, he faces up to seven years in jail.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "As the charges indicate, this defendant has not made payments toward a brighter future. Instead, the defendant will likely pay the price with a criminal record. I commend the inspector who reported the bribe attempt and worked with DOI on this case."

DOI's investigation began after a DOB inspector reported to DOI that the defendant attempted to bribe him when he was preparing to write a summons to a worker for SHABBIR. Working with DOI, the inspector met with SHABBIR, who gave the inspector \$600 not to issue violations for the unlicensed plumbing work and work performed without a permit. If SHABBIR had been issued the violations, he faced \$3,000 in fines. At that same meeting, which was monitored by DOI, SHABBIR offered the inspector even more money if the inspector would delete from DOB's computer system violations that had been issued on another property SHABBIR owns in Queens. That property, which was unoccupied, had eight outstanding boiler violations. DOB code requires property owners of multi-family homes to have their boilers inspected annually by a licensed contractor and to forward the inspection report to DOB. If no inspection report is forwarded to DOB a violation is automatically generated by DOB's computer system. When the inspector met with SHABBIR at the Queens property, SHABBIR gave the inspector \$500 to delete the boiler violations. On a third occasion, the inspector met again with SHABBIR, who gave the inspector another \$500 to delete another violation issued to a Queens address for work performed without a permit.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked DOB Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster, FAIA, and her staff.

This investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for DOB John Woods, First Deputy Inspector General Joseph Ferraro and Investigator Christopher Santariello. SHABBIR is being prosecuted by the Office of Brooklyn District Attorney Charles J. Hynes. Assistant District Attorney Joseph DiBeneditto is handling the matter.

Criminal complaints are accusations. Defendants are 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.