



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

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**DOI STATEMENT ON THE GUILTY PLEA OF A FORMER ACS EMPLOYEE TO \$600,000 BANK FRAUD CONSPIRACY**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement regarding today's guilty plea by DARLY ESTINVAL, 37, a former Principal Administrative Associate with the City Administration for Children's Services ("ACS"), for her role in a scheme in which checks issued by ACS to vendors were stolen, altered and used to create and negotiate counterfeit checks through which banks were defrauded of more than \$600,000. ESTINVAL pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Brooklyn to a federal charge of Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud and is expected to be sentenced on December 21, 2009. The office of Benton J. Campbell, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, prosecuted the case.

ESTINVAL's ACS job involved mailing checks to vendors and access to the safe where those checks were stored. The investigation found that between 2005 and 2008 ESTINVAL stole ACS-issued vendor checks so they could be counterfeited or altered.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "This former City employee abused her insider access to betray the City and defraud banking institutions. Today she stands convicted and has been held accountable. I commend DOI investigators, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York and our federal law enforcement partners for their dedicated efforts that resulted in this guilty plea. We will continue to expose and stop this type of corruption."

ESTINVAL was employed at ACS from May 2004 until her termination in September 2008, two months after she was arrested in connection with this case. At the time of her termination she was receiving an annual salary of approximately \$43,700.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Benton J. Campbell, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York; Brian G. Parr, Special Agent-in-Charge of the New York Field Office of the United States Secret Service; and Ronald J. Verrochio, Inspector-in-Charge of the New York Division of the United States Postal Inspection Service, and their staffs, for their joint efforts on this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for the City Department of Finance, with assistance from DOI's Office of the Inspector General for ACS.

Assistant United States Attorney Daniel D. Brownell of the office of the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York prosecuted the case.

*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.*

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