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**NYC DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO
ENGAGING IN CRIMINAL SEX ACT WITH INMATE IN RIKERS ISLAND JAIL
Defendant Will Register As A Sexual Offender**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark today announced that a New York City Department of Correction Officer has pleaded guilty to third-degree Criminal Sex Act for an incident with an inmate in Rikers Island.

District Attorney Clark said, "Correction Officers or any other staff in Rikers Island cannot use their position to abuse inmates. We will prosecute any jail employee who undermines the public's trust and tarnishes the honest, hardworking employees of the Department of Correction."

Department of Investigation Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, "As a correction officer or member of DOC staff, engaging in a sexual act with an inmate is indefensible. DOI takes allegations of this nature extremely seriously and will continue to investigate this illegal conduct and make arrests where appropriate."

District Attorney Clark said the defendant, Jose Cosme, 37, of Manhattan, pleaded guilty today before Bronx Supreme Court Justice Ralph Fabrizio to third-degree Criminal Sex Act and will be sentenced on August 3, 2017 to ten years of probation and must register as a Sexual Offender.

According to the investigation, on November 30, 2015, in the Rose M. Singer Center on Rikers Island, Cosme engaged in sexual conduct with a female inmate, who is unable to consent by reason that she is incarcerated.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Danielle Pascale, Supervisor of the Child Abuse/Sex Crimes Bureau, under the overall supervision of Joseph Muroff, Chief of the Special Victims Division. District Attorney Clark thanked DOI Captain Investigator Lashana Taylor and Correction Officer Investigator Jerome Corrica for their assistance in the investigation.