



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**REMARKS OF DOI COMMISSIONER JOCELYN E. STRAUBER REGARDING ANNOUNCEMENT OF  
INDICTMENT INVOLVING THE MAYOR'S FORMER CHIEF ADVISOR, HER SON AND TWO CO-CONSPIRATORS**

Thank you, Alvin.

City officials have an obligation to faithfully discharge the duties of their office and to uphold the law. Their hard work and sacrifice enable City government to act as it should – that is, in the public interest. And the overwhelming majority of New York City employees uphold those obligations, serving the public with integrity, day in and day out.

Today, we announce an Indictment against Ingrid Lewis-Martin, the Mayor's former Chief Advisor, for using her official position – and the authority and influence associated with that position – to enrich herself and her son. As charged, she used her senior role in City government to benefit two co-conspirators, in exchange for cash in excess of \$100,000 and support for her son's business ventures. The benefits Lewis-Martin allegedly provided to her co-conspirators include her personal assistance and intervention with the Department of Buildings in service of their construction projects. And, as is also alleged, she and her son engaged in financial transactions intended to conceal the source of the cash payments received.

The conduct described in today's Indictment – the monetizing of a senior government position for personal benefit -- undermines fundamental principles of integrity in government. Those who pay-to-play get better, faster service, and those officials who sell their authority and influence to grease the wheels get paid handsomely. The conduct alleged thus diminishes trust in government, and in government officials, and unfairly tarnishes the reputations of the many public servants who use their office solely for the public good. As I have said before in this context, New Yorkers deserve better.

As I have also said, it is the New York City Department of Investigation's mission to find the facts and hold accountable those who engage in wrongdoing, whatever their position. A City agency, DOI conducts its investigations confidentially and wholly independently of City Hall, working in collaboration with our federal and state law enforcement partners to protect the interests of all New Yorkers in an effective City government that acts with integrity and transparency.

Our investigation here is continuing, and I encourage anyone with information concerning bribery, fraud or other illegal conduct relating to this investigation, or any aspect of New York City government, to contact DOI by email at [tipline@doi.nyc.gov](mailto:tipline@doi.nyc.gov) or by phone at (212) 825-2828.

Thank you again, D.A. Bragg, and your team of dedicated prosecutors who worked closely with DOI on this investigation, as we have in so many others. And thank you to the DOI team drawn from several of our investigative squads, for your tireless work on this case.

An indictment is an accusation. Defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

*DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and New York City's corruption watchdog. 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. DOI's strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to high-impact arrests, preventive internal controls and operational reforms that improve the way the City runs.*

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