



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

JOCELYN E. STRAUBER
COMMISSIONER

180 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

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**CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931**

**FORMER CITY CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES WORKER PLEADS GUILTY TO OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT
RELATED TO EXPOSING HIMSELF TO A PARENT HE WAS INVESTIGATING**

Jocelyn E. Strauber, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), issued a statement today on the guilty plea of a former Child Protective Specialist (“CPS”) for the City Administration for Children’s Services (“ACS”) to exposing himself to a parent he was investigating during two home visits in 2021. DOI conducted this investigation with the Office of Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, which is prosecuting the case.

HAROLD LATOUR, 60, of Springfield Gardens, N.Y., was charged in May 2023 with two counts of Official Misconduct, a class A misdemeanor, and one count of Harassment in the Second Degree, a violation. Today, LATOUR pled guilty in Queens County Criminal Court to one count of Official Misconduct. He was sentenced to a conditional discharge. He committed to resign from ACS — he retired from ACS in March 2024 — and complete sex offender treatment as part of his plea agreement. He has been evaluated and is enrolled in a treatment program. His case has been adjourned until September 12, 2024 for an update on his progress in the program.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, “Today this former Child Protective Services Specialist takes responsibility for harassing a parent he was investigating by exposing himself to her. The misconduct to which he has now pled guilty betrayed the trust this City placed in him to access families’ home and to safeguard vulnerable families and children. I thank the Queens District Attorney’s Office for its commitment to protect families and ACS for immediately informing DOI of these allegations so they could be properly investigated.”

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz said, “ACS workers hold positions of trust and are responsible for protecting vulnerable children. Harold Latour abused his authority as an ACS child protective services specialist and exposed himself to a parent during two home visits. Today, the defendant pleaded guilty to official misconduct and will face the consequences for his reprehensible behavior. I thank our partners at the Department of Investigation and the Administration for Children’s Services for their assistance in this prosecution.”

LATOUR’S duties and responsibilities included making home visits in connection with child welfare investigations. The investigation found that he made such a visit in October 2021 in Queens, while investigating allegations against a mother. LATOUR wore basketball shorts to the visit and was not wearing underwear when he sat down on the couch across from the woman, exposing himself to her. LATOUR returned for another home visit the following month, and again wore basketball shorts, exposing himself to her, this time while seated in her kitchen. During DOI’s investigation, LATOUR was placed on modified duty and had no further contact with children or their families.

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LATOUR, an ACS employee since June 2011, was receiving an annual salary of approximately \$65,921 when he retired in March 2024

DOI Commissioner Strauber thanked Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz and her staff for their collaboration on this investigation, which is being handled by Public Corruption Bureau Deputy Chief Christine Oliveri and Public Corruption Bureau Chief Khadijah Muhammad-Starling. Commissioner Strauber also thanked ACS Commissioner Jess Dannhauser and his staff for their cooperation.

At DOI, the case was investigated by Assistant Inspector General Alexandra Davie and Assistant Inspector General Octavia Hill, and was supervised by Senior Inspector General Laura Millendorf, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives Christopher Ryan, and Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella.

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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