



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
CLODAGH MCGOWAN
(212) 825-5931

**NYC ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES' ASSOCIATE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
SENTENCED TO TIME SERVED AND TWO YEARS' POST RELEASE SUPERVISION IN CONNECTION
WITH ASSAULT OF A 16-YEAR-OLD RESIDENT AT HORIZON JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER**

Jocelyn E. Strauber, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), issued the following statement on today's sentencing of DAQUAN SEYMOUR, an Associate Youth Development Specialist with the City Administration for Children's Services ("ACS") who pled guilty in November 2024 to a federal criminal civil rights violation in connection with the assault of a 16-year-old resident at Horizon Juvenile Detention Center in the Bronx, N.Y. SEYMOUR was sentenced to time served, two years' post release supervision, and a \$1,000 fine by U.S. District Judge Edgardo Ramos in the Southern District of New York.

SEYMOUR, 34, of the Bronx was a supervisor and Associate Youth Development Specialist at the Horizon Juvenile Center, a residential detention facility, when the assault occurred. He [was charged in July 2023](#) with federal criminal civil rights offenses, including conspiring to deprive the minor victim of his constitutional rights, depriving the minor victim of his constitutional rights under color of law, and filing false reports. The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York prosecuted this case.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, "This defendant was obligated and trusted to safeguard the juvenile residents in his care. In a shocking violation of that trust, and in violation of the law, the defendant dragged a 16-year-old resident by his forearms across the floor, hit him repeatedly, restrained him and then taunted him. The defendant's misconduct sets him apart from the vast majority of the City's Juvenile Detention Center staff who strive to secure and protect the residents of these facilities, and carries serious consequences, as this prison sentence shows. I thank the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York for its partnership in this important case and ACS for its cooperation."

According to the indictment and other court documents, on April 25, 2022, after a confrontation between several staff members and juvenile residents, including the minor victim, SEYMOUR dragged the minor victim by his forearms across the floor of a residential hall and into a private room, where he struck the minor victim repeatedly. As a result of the beating, the minor victim suffered bodily injuries, including a deep laceration to his upper lip area, and was transported to a nearby hospital for medical care. SEYMOUR did not disclose the assault on Horizon incident reports.

During the November plea proceeding, SEYMOUR admitted to depriving the minor victim of his constitutional rights resulting in injury to the victim, and to failing to disclose the assault in his incident reports. SEYMOUR also agreed not to dispute that he falsified another incident report in connection with an earlier attempted assault of a 17-year-old resident at Horizon in December 2021.

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SEYMOUR has been employed at ACS since December 2019 and has been reassigned from Horizon to an ACS Borough Field Office, where he has no contact with juveniles. He receives an annual salary of approximately \$78,000.

DOI Commissioner Strauber thanked United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York Danielle R. Sassoon and the Office's Civil Rights Unit in the Criminal Division, where Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jamie Bagliebter, Mitzi S. Steiner and Lisa Daniels handled the prosecution. Commissioner Strauber also thanked ACS Commissioner Jess Dannhauser for his agency's cooperation in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by Deputy Inspector General Harlyn Griffenberg of DOI's Office of the Inspector General for ACS and was supervised by Senior Inspector General Laura Millendorf, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives Christopher Ryan, and Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella.

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