



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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DOI ARRESTS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY SUPERVISOR ON BRIBERY CHARGE

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest of JIANGUO GAO, a construction company supervisor charged late yesterday with giving a DOI undercover investigator a \$50 bribe to overlook violations at a Flushing, Queens construction site. DOI's investigation was prompted by a report received yesterday from a City Department of Transportation ("DOT") inspector that a supervisor at the site had offered the inspector "coffee money" when the inspector was checking to see whether an earlier violation had been cured. The office of Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "Bribing a City inspector to walk away from a violation is a dangerous move. We rely on inspectors to protect public safety, and attempts to corrupt them will result in arrest and prosecution. City employees who report corruption to DOI, as required, know that the law will be enforced even-handedly. This DOT inspector made the right call."

GAO, 38, of Queens, is charged with Bribery in the Third Degree, a class D felony, which, upon conviction, is punishable by up to seven years in prison.

According to the criminal complaint, on October 21, 2009, at a construction site at Sanford Avenue and College Point Boulevard, a DOI undercover investigator walked through the site with GAO and noted violations of DOT regulations, specifically a blocked fire hydrant and the absence of a pedestrian path or walkway. GAO then led the investigator across the street, removed a \$50 bill from his wallet, and handed it to the investigator, saying in substance that it was for GAO "not to pay."

H. Rock Corporation, of 3609 Main Street in Flushing, is building new apartments at the construction site. Workers on the site identified GAO as the job supervisor.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked District Attorney Brown, DOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan, and their staffs for their assistance in this case.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Inspector General for DOT, Mary T. Piechocki and members of her staff, including First Deputy Inspector General John M. Bellanie, Assistant Inspector General Renard McDowell, Supervising Investigator Omar Sarach and Confidential Investigators Kenneth McGrail and Randall Peters.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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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