



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

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**DOI ARRESTS NYCHA INSPECTOR FOR WORKING AT A DAY CARE CENTER WHILE ON THE CITY'S CLOCK**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of New York City Housing Authority Inspector KAREN BALLARD for filing false documents indicating she had conducted inspections to ensure the habitability of Section 8 subsidized apartments even though she did not conduct the inspections. Instead of conducting the inspections, BALLARD was working at a day care center she owns and operates.

BALLARD, 41, of Queens, has been charged with Forgery in the Second Degree, Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, and Official Misconduct. If convicted, she faces up to seven years in prison.

BALLARD has been an Inspector in NYCHA's Section 8 Leased Housing Department since 2002. The Leased Housing Department administers a Section 8 rent program within the City of New York in which private landlords are paid monthly subsidies by NYCHA toward the rent of eligible low-income tenants. NYCHA employs housing inspectors to conduct annual detailed inspections of these apartments to ensure that they are safe and meet NYCHA's habitability standards.

BALLARD not only failed to visit apartments that were assigned to her for inspection, but instead submitted false records to indicate that she was at work, and conducting scheduled inspections on specific dates and times. During the times BALLARD falsely claimed to be inspecting apartments in Brooklyn, she was actually working at Q-Kids, a day-care center she owns and operates at 116-08 219<sup>th</sup> Street, St Albans, Queens.

This investigation was jointly conducted by DOI'S Inspector General for NYCHA Judith F. Abruzzo and members of her staff, including Deputy Inspector General Kevin Smith, Acting Assistant Inspector General Rosemary Caruso, and Confidential Investigator Alexandra D. Hampton.

The Office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the cases. Assistant District Attorney Donal Haugh, under the supervision of Rackets Bureau Chief Anne Sealy, will prosecute.

Criminal complaints are merely an accusation. Defendants are 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.*

***Get the worms out of the Big Apple.  
To report someone ripping off the city, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.***