

The City of New York Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN

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DOI ARRESTS FORMER DOHMH EMPLOYEE FOR STEALING MONEY ORDERS WORTH \$2,600

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (DOI), announced today the arrest of SHAKEINA CARLTON for stealing \$2,600 from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH).

CARLTON, 22, of Brooklyn, has been charged with one count of Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree and five counts of Forgery in the Second Degree. If convicted, she faces up to seven years in jail.

CARLTON, who worked in the mail room at DOHMH's Administrative Tribunal from January 2004 until May 2004, stole approximately five money orders totaling \$2,600 that restaurant owners had submitted to pay fines incurred during health inspections. One money order was worth \$1,000, while four other money orders sent by a restaurateur totaled \$1,600. CARLTON, who was responsible for opening envelopes, allegedly altered the money orders to make them payable to herself; endorsed them and deposited all five money orders into her checking account.

DOI's investigation began when a DOHMH Administrative Tribunal manager reported that a restaurateur called DOHMH to complain about dunning letters he received for fines he had already paid. Using a copy of the restaurateur's money order, DOI investigators traced the missing money orders to CARLTON's bank account. CARLTON was terminated from her job in May 2004 when the alleged theft was discovered.

Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn thanked DOHMH Commissioner Thomas R. Frieden and his staff, including the employee who reported the theft, for their cooperation and assistance in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOHMH Inspector General Sam Amorese, Deputy Inspector General Stephan Zander, Assistant Inspector General Bradley Howard, and Special Investigators Byron Biggerstaff and Virginia Arana. The Office of Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau will prosecute the case.

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 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.