



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation

ROSE GILL HEARN  
COMMISSIONER

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**EMT ARRESTED FOR TRYING TO STEAL PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM A PATIENT**

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI) announced the felony arrest of CLAIRE CINQUE, an Emergency Medical Technician employed by the New York City Fire Department, for attempting to steal medication from an undercover investigator who pretended to be injured.

CINQUE, 44, of Queens, was arrested today at the intersection of Crescent Street and Queens Plaza South in Queens. She has been charged with Attempted Criminal Possession of Controlled Substance with Intent to Sell, Attempted Criminal Possession of Controlled Substance in the Fourth Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, Petit Larceny, Attempted Criminal Possession of Stolen Property and Official Misconduct. If convicted, she faces up to 15 years in jail.

In response to allegations from patients who claimed they lost prescription medicine and money while in CINQUE'S care, DOI initiated an integrity test on CINQUE, who is assigned to EMS Battalion 45. Two undercover investigators, one of whom pretended to have a back injury, flagged down CINQUE'S ambulance while on Court Square in Long Island City, Queens. While treating the undercover in the back of the ambulance, CINQUE asked the undercover/patient if she was taking any medications. CINQUE removed the two bottles of pills from the patient/undercover'S purse and took them with her to the front seat as she drove the ambulance to Mount Sinai Hospital on 30<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Queens. Once at the hospital, CINQUE returned the pill bottles to the undercover. However, a total of 21 tablets of Vicodin and Oxycodone were missing from the two bottles. CINQUE'S ambulance was pulled over after the trip to the hospital.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked FDNY Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta for his assistance and cooperation in this case. This investigation was conducted by DOI'S office of the Inspector General for FDNY. The office of Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown is handling the case; Assistant District Attorney James Liander will prosecute.

Criminal complaints are merely accusations. 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 apple.***  
***To report someone ripping off the City, call 311 or DOI directly at (212) 825-5959.***