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Report Released Today

Today, Special Commissioner of Investigation Richard J. Condon released a detailed 67 page report of an investigation into the findings of a prior investigation conducted by the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) Office of Special Investigations (“OSI”). OSI had substantiated that an assistant principal at the Cobble Hill High School of American Studies in Brooklyn tampered with the scoring of Regents examinations and that the principal of the school had covered up allegations of the tampering. SCI also examined allegations of wrongdoing on the part of Region personnel.

The SCI investigation found that the OSI investigation was flawed from its inception because the assigned investigator was unsupervised and acted as the agent of a complainant, an untenured teacher who thought he was going to lose his job. In fact, there was no credible evidence to support the accusations against the assistant principal and principal. The SCI investigation also found that there was no cover-up by the Regional Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent.

The DOE Office of Legal Services (“OLS”) relied on the faulty findings of the compromised OSI investigator and pursued disciplinary charges against the principal. Ultimately, a hearing officer dismissed all the charges against the principal. The assistant principal remains ineligible for employment with the DOE.

Copies of the report will be available after 10:30 a.m. at 80 Maiden Lane, 20th Floor. Questions should be referred to Laurel Wright-Hinckson at (212) 510-1479.

The Office of the Special Commissioner of Investigation is part of the New York City Department of Investigation and Special Commissioner Condon reports to Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn.