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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2004

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TEACHER ARRESTED FOR STEALING
RETIREMENT FUNDS FROM THE NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Richard J. Condon, Special Commissioner of Investigation for the New York City School District (SCI) announced today the arrest of Jeffrey Kastin, Music Teacher at Intermediate School 237 in Queens. Kastin has been charged with Grand Larceny in the 2nd Degree. If convicted, the maximum sentence he could receive is 15 years in prison.

Kastin, 62, of North Merrick, NY, is accused of misappropriating more than \$100,000 in disability retirement funds. In May 1991, Kastin began receiving a disability pension after retiring from his teaching position because of a debilitating medical condition. Kastin became medically fit to return to work in February 2000 but continued to receive and cash disability retirement checks to which he was no longer entitled. SCI's investigators initiated this investigation in July 2003, after reviewing an audit conducted by the office of the New York City Comptroller. Kastin has been a Department of Education employee for 40 years. He was not reassigned during this investigation and is awaiting a hearing on disciplinary charges.

The Special Commissioner thanks New York County District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau and his office for their cooperation. Assistant District Attorney Judy Salwen will be handling the prosecution.

The office of the Special Commissioner of Investigation for the New York City School District is a part of the New York City's Department of Investigation.