CITY OF NEW YORK

THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF INVESTIGATION FOR THE NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Independent Service Provider Continued to Defraud DOE After Being Banned From Doing Business With Department Report of Findings Available Today

An investigation conducted by the office of the Special Commissioner of Investigation for the New York City School District ("SCI") has determined that George Lebovits, the owner, operator, and chief source of financing for Brooklyn Community Management, LLC. ("BCM"), an Independent Related Service Provider ("IRSP") located in Brooklyn, New York, created multiple companies through which to bill the New York City Department of Education ("DOE") approximately \$300,000 after having been banned from conducting any business with the department.

A previous SCI investigation, released in July 2007, had substantiated that BCM had fraudulently billed the DOE for Special Education services provided to non-DOE students, but funded by the department. The 2007 case led to the DOE determination that Lebovits, BCM, and its affiliates and principal officers, would be banned from conducting future business with the DOE.

In addition, the current investigation found that Lebovits and his companies had billed the DOE approximately \$50,000 for services provided by several counselors who did not meet the licensing requirements of the department.

This investigation also revealed that Lebovits had assisted an attorney, Aaron Tyk, in falsely claiming to the DOE that he had been retained by, and represented, several students seeking Special Education services from the DOE.

A report detailing the findings of the investigation will be available today at the Office of the Special Commissioner of Investigation at 80 Maiden Lane, 20th floor, or contact Laurel Wright-Hinckson at (212) 510-1479.

Special Commissioner Condon is a Deputy Commissioner to Department of Investigation Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn.