

CITY OF NEW YORK
THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF INVESTIGATION
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Report Released Today - Copies Available

School Aide Stole More Than \$27,500 In Public Funds

Today, Special Commissioner of Investigation Richard J. Condon released a report detailing an investigation which found that School Aide Darla Picozzi, assigned to the Second Opportunity Schools in Brooklyn, stole more than \$27,500 in New York City Department of Education ("DOE") Small Imprest Payment Process ("SIPP") funds by submitting false and unauthorized expense reimbursement claims between November 2005 and January 2007. Picozzi then cashed the SIPP checks at the bank where her salary was sent by direct deposit.

Commissioner Condon referred his findings to Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes for whatever action he deems appropriate. The Special Commissioner also recommended to the Chancellor that Darla Picozzi be terminated from employment with the DOE and be made ineligible for work in the City school system.

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.