CITY OF NEW YORK

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

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A Former DOE Assistant Principal and an Employee of an After School Program Indicted and Arrested on Sexual Charges

Today, Special Commissioner of Investigation Richard J. Condon announced that William Abreu, a former Department of Education ("DOE") assistant principal assigned to Progress High School for Professional Careers ("Progress High") in Brooklyn, and Juan Martinez of Progress, Inc., an after school program associated with Progress High, were arrested following felony indictments based on an investigation and report by the Special Commissioner's office ("SCI"). The report, released publicly in September 2013, is available on the SCI website or at http://www.nycsci.org/reports/09-13%20Abreu%20and%20Martinez%20Ltr.pdf.

Special Commissioner Condon referred the matter to the Kings County District Attorney's Office, which made this morning's arrests. Abreu, 44, has been charged with Rape in the third degree, a felony, and Sexual abuse in the third degree and Endangering the welfare of a child, misdemeanors, based on his conduct toward a then-17-year-old female who had recently graduated from Progress High. Martinez, 51, has been charged with Criminal sexual act in the first and third degrees and Sexual abuse in the first degree, felonies, and Sexual abuse in the third degree and Endangering the welfare of a child, misdemeanors, based on his conduct toward a then-16-year-old female student at the school.

Abreu was fired by the DOE in November 2013 as a result of a June 2012 SCI report. That report was released publicly and is available on the SCI website or at http://www.nycsci.org/reports/06-12%20Abreu%20William%20LTR.pdf. At a resulting disciplinary proceeding, the Hearing Officer found that the evidence supported the charges that Abreu made inappropriate sexual remarks to three 15-year-old female students and assessed the penalty of termination of Abreu's employment. Abreu had been suspended without pay since the release of the 2012 report. Martinez has been barred from Progress High by the DOE since the report. The current victims, whose disclosure resulted in the indictment and today's arrests, came forward after hearing about the June 2012 report.

Special Commissioner Condon thanks Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson, Assistant District Attorney Olatokunbo Olaniyan, and D.A. Investigator David Intrator.