## CITY OF NEW YORK

## THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF INVESTIGATION FOR THE NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 80 Maiden Lane. 20th floor

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10038

RICHARD J. CONDON
SPECIAL COMMISSIONER

Telephone: (212) 510-1400 Fax: (212) 510-1550 WWW.NYCSCI.ORG

**CONTACT:** Laurel Wright-Hinckson

(212) 510-1479

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## DOE Psychologist Arrested For Falsifying Student Evaluation Documents Report of Findings Available Today

Today, investigators from the office of Special Commissioner of Investigation arrested Shari Lovenheim, a School Psychologist, who worked at Public School 276 in Brooklyn. Lovenheim was charged with three counts of forgery and three counts of falsifying records, specifically, Forgery in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, a Class D felony, and Falsifying Business Records in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree which is a Class E felony. If convicted, Lovenheim faces a maximum of 7 years in prison.

The investigation found that Lovenheim, the psychologist responsible for performing the Individual Education Program ("IEP") evaluations for the school's special education students, forged the authorizing signatures on the IEP documents for more than 20 special education students at the school.

The office of Kings County District Attorney Charles J. Hynes is prosecuting the criminal case. The Special Commissioner thanks the members of DA Hynes's staff who assisted with this matter; in particular, Supervising Assistant District Attorney Michael Spanakos and Assistant District Attorney Jeanne Robitaille who will handle the case.

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, 20<sup>th</sup> 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.