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PAYROLL SECRETARY ARRESTED FOR STEALING
FROM THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Richard J. Condon, the Special Commissioner of Investigation for the New York City School District (SCI) announced today the arrest of Robyn Richter, Payroll Secretary at Public School 246 in the Bronx. Richter has been charged in a 17-count indictment with Grand Larceny in the 3rd Degree, Falsifying Business Records in the 1st Degree and Petit Larceny. At her arraignment in Bronx Supreme Court this morning, she pleaded not guilty and was released on her own recognizance. If convicted, the maximum sentence she could receive is 7 years in prison.

Richter, 44, of the Bronx, NY, is accused of misappropriating over \$7,200 in NYC Department of Education funds. From December 2001 through June 2002, Richter overpaid herself at a higher rate and for hours she did not work. School officials alerted SCI's investigators after another payroll secretary discovered the overpayment. Richter has been a Department of Education employee for 15 years. She was reassigned to clerical duties during the investigation and is awaiting a hearing on disciplinary charges.

"One of the priorities of this office is the pursuit of Department of Education employees who steal money from the City," said Special Commissioner Condon.

The Special Commissioner thanks Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson and his office for their cooperation. Assistant District Attorney James Goward will be handling the prosecution.

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