



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

NADIA I. SHIHATA
COMMISSIONER

180 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

June 29, 2026

By Electronic Mail

The Honorable Julie Menin
Speaker, New York City Council
New York City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Dear Speaker Menin:

On July 14, 2025, the New York City Council (“Council”) passed Resolution No. 560-A (“the Resolution”), “directing the Department of Investigation [pursuant to New York City Charter §803(a)] to conduct an investigation to ascertain the knowledge possessed by mayoral administrations on environmental toxins produced by the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and to submit a report to the Council thereon.” The Resolution further requires the Department of Investigation (“DOI”) to provide an update in writing on the status of the investigation to the Speaker of the New York City Council by June 30 and December 31 of each year. This letter serves as an update for June 30, 2026.

In July 2025, DOI contacted agencies that it reasonably believed might have records relevant to the investigation required by the Resolution (“the Investigation”). The letter requested that the agencies identify categories of records in their possession or in their archives that may contain relevant information, the current location of the records, the format of the records, the volume of the records if quantifiable, and, if in electronic format, the name of the database or platform in which the records reside and details regarding whether the electronic records are currently accessible. DOI collected and reviewed the responses and, where necessary, conducted follow-up meetings with the agencies.

In its January 2025 testimony about the Resolution, DOI was candid with the Council about its need for additional resources in order to conduct the investigation required by the Resolution. Specifically, DOI testified that “[g]iven the volume and scope of such an investigation, DOI simply

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cannot undertake it with its current staffing, which as you know is already stretched in so many ways. To conduct such an investigation, DOI would need funding to hire [staff or a third-party firm].”

Most recently, as part of its new needs request for the May 2026 Executive Financial Plan, DOI requested a total of \$4 million over the course of two fiscal years to hire a third-party firm to assist DOI in the Investigation. The Mayor’s Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) has not yet approved DOI’s request.

Nevertheless, in anticipation of funding approval, DOI engaged in a process to select a firm by releasing a Request for Information to six firms with relevant expertise to assist DOI in the Investigation. DOI reviewed the firms’ submissions and has selected a team consisting of two firms to assist in the Investigation. Once DOI has secured funding from OMB, DOI will enter a contract with the selected firms.

Please reach out to DOI’s Acting General Counsel Andrew Sein at asein@doi.nyc.gov or (212) 825-6859 if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Shihata", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nadia I. Shihata
Commissioner