



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

JOCELYN E. STRAUBER
COMMISSIONER

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

December 31, 2025

By Electronic Mail

The Honorable Adrienne Adams
Speaker, New York City Council
New York City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Dear Speaker Adams:

On July 14, 2025, the New York City Council passed Resolution No. 560-A, “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 December 31, 2025.

In July 2025, DOI contacted agencies that it reasonably believed might have records relevant to the investigation. The letter requested that each agency identify categories of records in its possession or archives that may contain relevant information, the current location, format and volume of the records (if quantifiable), and, if in electronic format, the name of the database or platform and whether the electronic records are currently accessible. DOI collected and reviewed the responses and, where necessary, conducted follow-up meetings to elicit additional information.

In my testimony with respect to the proposed resolution in January 2025, I was candid with the Council that DOI would need additional resources to conduct the investigation required by the resolution. Specifically, I informed the Council that “[g]iven the volume and scope of such an

Speaker Adrienne Adams

Page 2 of 2

December 31, 2025

investigation, DOI simply 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 third-party firm].” DOI requested this funding — a total of over \$3 million over two fiscal years — in its new needs request for the November 2025 Financial Plan and the January 2026 Preliminary Financial Plan. DOI has continued to press for this funding in discussions with the Mayor’s Office of Management and Budget; the request is not yet approved.

Nevertheless, in anticipation of approval, DOI has initiated the process to hire a firm to assist in the investigation, acting at the direction of DOI investigators, by issuing a Request for Information (RFI) to firms with relevant expertise. Once DOI receives the firms’ submissions, we will review them and move forward with the selection process, pending a funding commitment from OMB.

Please reach out to DOI’s Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Special Counsel Rebecca Chasan at rchasan@doi.nyc.gov or (212) 806-5234 if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Jocelyn E. Strauber
Commissioner

cc: Council Member Gale Brewer (by email)