



New York City Comptroller  
**Scott M. Stringer**

**NEWS**

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

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## COMPTROLLER STRINGER ANNOUNCES PRE-LITIGATION SETTLEMENT WITH THE ESTATE OF DARRYL AUSTIN, ALVENA JENNETTE, AND ROBERT HILL

New York, NY - New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer announced [today](#) that he has settled three pre-litigation claims for a total of \$17 million with the estate of Darryl Austin, Alvena Jennette, and Robert Hill. The murder convictions of all three individuals were vacated and their indictments dismissed in May 2014 by Justice John Firetog of Kings County Supreme Court at the request of Kings County District Attorney Kenneth Thompson.

“After a comprehensive review of all three cases and lengthy negotiations with claimants’ counsel, my office was able to reach a settlement with the estate of Darryl Austin, Alvena Jennette, and Robert Hill. This settlement is in the best interests of all parties,” Comptroller Stringer said. “The trials of Messrs. Austin, Jennette, and Hill that resulted in 60 years of cumulative incarceration came under great scrutiny by the Kings County Conviction Review Unit. I am pleased that my office was able to resolve these claims.”

Darryl Austin passed away in 2000, while incarcerated. Louise Austin, the mother of all three individuals, will receive \$3.85 million on behalf of his estate. Alvena Jennette will receive a settlement of \$6 million and Robert Hill will receive a settlement of \$7.15 million.

Under Chapter 5, Section 93 of the New York City Charter, the Comptroller has the authority to settle claims against the City prior to litigation.<sup>1</sup>

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