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## The City's Biggest OT Hog Makes More Than His Own Boss

By Rich Calder

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The number of city workers who raked in at least \$100,000 in overtime more than doubled last year, new figures obtained by The Post reveal.

At the top of the list is city overtime king David Russell, a Department of Transportation supervisor highway repairer who clocked 3,045 extra hours to rack up \$177,629 in additional pay — nearly tripling his regular earnings before taxes of \$82,076.

His total \$259,705 in earnings toppled his own boss: DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg, who makes \$214,413 yearly.

Russell, a 22-year-veteran, was one of six DOT workers who cracked the top 10 in OT gluttony.

Others include Edward Alfano, a supervisor bricklayer who finished third with \$146,118 in OT, and Parmanan Harripersaud, an electrician who finished fourth with \$145,677.

The 68 city staffers earning six figures in overtime is more than double the 31 employees who earned more than \$100,000 in the prior fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

Of the 68 workers earning six figures in OT, nearly half, 32, were employed by DOT.

"These numbers raise some serious questions over the use of overtime in city agencies," said Maria Doulis, vice president of the watchdog Citizens Budget Commission.

"Overtime is supposed to be a way for management to deal with [unforeseen] problems, but this sounds like routine work that might be better done through more hiring."

DOT officials said the agency is in the process of cutting down on overtime, which could include filling vacancies. But the agency defended having six of the city's top 10 overtime earners.

"These six positions are within DOT's Bridge Preventative Maintenance and Bridge Repairs divisions, which make emergency repairs to bridge flag conditions, which must be addressed quickly and drive overtime levels. Many times this work requires lane closures, which must also be done during off-hours," DOT spokesman Scott Gastel said.

The Fire Department had 12 earning above \$100,000 in overtime, although they were fire marshals, supervisors and other staffers who don't actually put out blazes.

Marine engineer Frederick Domini, a 19-year vet, was second only to Russell with \$153,786 in overtime on top of his \$92,289 in regular pay.

John Murphy, a Buildings Department associate inspector, had led all city employees in fiscal 2014 by earning \$179,099 in overtime — nearly triple his regular pay.

Murphy actually cut back on his OT, but still finished ninth overall, earning \$130,851 above his \$73,160 in regular pay.