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## Fired NYPD cop writes gritty book to set record straight

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Former supercop JosÃ© Sanchez (left) hands copy of his new book, 'True Blue,' to legendary NYPD whistleblower Frank Serpico.

*What I did that ended my career with the [NYPD](#), that was a judgment call. Even the cops who'd secretly agreed with why I'd done it thought what I'd done was damned poor judgment. Dropping a dime on my boss and his boss to I.A.D., I mean. The way any cop is trained to look at that stuff it was just plain ratting. What I'd done was fancy ratting. But these were some fancy rats."*

- "True Blue" by [JosÃ© Sanchez](#) (Old Kings Road Press, 2008)

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There's a saying in the Police Department that you can love the job, but don't expect the job to love you back.

Former NYPD cop JosÁ© [Joe] Sanchez knows that feeling.

More than two decades after he was terminated from the Police Department, the highly-decorated supercop who terrorized bad guys in [Washington Heights](#) still loves the job despite everything.

Everything includes getting double-crossed by the Internal Affairs Division, which wired him up to catch a crooked lieutenant and captain; then his arrest on the allegations of a drug dealer; a conviction for assault that was overturned and an unsuccessful bid for reinstatement.

Sanchez has put it all down in an autobiography called "True Blue," that is as rough around the edges as the kid who grew up in the [South Bronx](#) in the 1950s and made it to the NYPD after a tour in [Vietnam](#) and brief stint as a Port Authority cop.

Joined by an assortment of graying war buddies - from 'Nam and the streets of upper [Manhattan](#) - Sanchez will be signing copies of the book today at 6:30 p.m. at the Mysterious Book Store, 58 Warren St. in lower Manhattan.

Before he got jammed up, Sanchez was an arrest machine in the 30th Precinct and probably could have benefited from a mentor.

"I was no angel, but I think young cops can learn a lot from my book," Sanchez, 61, said in an interview.

"What I tell young cops I come in contact with... they have one of the greatest jobs in the world, and to stay honest, for once you lose a job for being dishonest, it will stay with you until you die," he continued.

The most bizarre twist in Sanchez's career occurred in 1988 after an administrative snafu sent his appeal for reinstatement to two different Supreme Court justices - one ruled that he be rehired and the other upheld his dismissal. The latter prevailed.

"I still have dreams I'm back on the job in uniform and it's a euphoric feeling," Sanchez said. "I'm back serving, back on patrol. And then, all of a sudden, there's the fear that someone in my dream wants to take the job away and then I wake up."