



# Illinois Ethics Matters

November 28, 2022

[www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov](http://www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov)

*Honesty, Integrity, Service*

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies  
of the Illinois Governor

## Office of Executive Inspector General

**Susan M. Haling**  
Executive Inspector  
General

**Neil P. Olson**  
General Counsel

**Fallon Opperman**  
Deputy Inspector  
General & Chief of  
Chicago Division

**Erin K. Bonales**  
Director, Hiring &  
Employment  
Monitoring Division

**Christine Benavente**  
Deputy Inspector  
General-Executive  
Projects

**Angela Luning**  
Deputy Inspector  
General & Acting  
Chief of Springfield  
Division

**Ogo Akpan**  
Chief Fiscal Officer &  
Chicago Operations  
Manager

### **Chicago Office:**

69 W. Washington St.  
Suite 3400  
Chicago, IL 60602  
(312) 814-5600

### **Springfield Office:**

607 E. Adams St.  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 558-5600

### **Hotline:**

(866) 814-1113

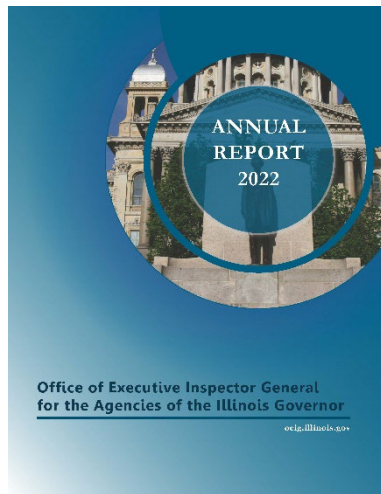
### **TTY:**

(888) 261-2734

## Announcements

- The OEIG is pleased to announce the hiring of **Dave Harmon** as an Investigator in its Springfield office.
- An OEIG investigative report (OEIG Case No. 20-00478) was recently publicly released. The investigation found that a Western Illinois University employee misused university email, engaged in time abuse, and knowingly made false statements to the OEIG. The report is available on the OEIG's website [here](#).

## OEIG Releases FY2022 Annual Report



The OEIG recently released its Annual Report. Fiscal Year 2022 featured notable record highs for the OEIG—including the number of complaints received and reviewed, and the number of revolving door determinations issued—as well as other achievements in areas such as hiring compliance and internal diversity, equity, and inclusion.

In FY2022, the OEIG received a total of 3,075 complaints, 63% of which were filed through the OEIG's website. The OEIG must evaluate each complaint for appropriate action within 30 days. In addition, the OEIG completed 88 investigations, including 20 that resulted in findings of wrongdoing and 21 that resulted in systematic or process recommendations to the governing authority.

Certain State employees are required to notify the OEIG prior to accepting non-State employment, and the OEIG must determine whether the employee participated personally and substantially in decisions involving the prospective employer. The OEIG must complete these revolving door determinations within 10 calendar days. During FY2022, the OEIG made 291 revolving door determinations. This represents a 55% increase from the prior fiscal year, and is a record high for a fiscal year.

The Annual Report also details changes in State hiring processes and oversight. The OEIG, through both its Hiring and Employment (HEM) and Investigative Divisions, has worked extensively on the *Shakman* litigation since the appointment of a special master in 2014. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit terminated the special master's appointment in August 2022. During the *Shakman* litigation, HEM worked with the special master and two different administrations to help bring substantial changes to the State's hiring system. Although the federal monitor's work has ended, HEM's compliance work and the OEIG's investigations will continue to work to ensure proper State hiring free from improper or undue influences.

The OEIG's FY2022 Annual Report also covers various other areas of the OEIG's work, including its internal Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Working Group, legislative initiatives, training (both on a Statewide basis as mandated by the Ethics Act and other more individualized training), and its fiscal operations. The Annual Report is available on the OEIG's website [here](#).