

# **Illinois Ethics Matters**

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## Honesty, Integrity, Service

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

Office of Executive Inspector General

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### **Recent News**

- The OEIG is pleased to announce that **Janelle Skaloud** recently began as an Assistant Inspector General in the General Investigations Division in Chicago, and the promotion of **Tonya Neal** to Supervising Analyst in the Hiring & Employment Monitoring Division.
- The Executive Ethics Commission released a public settlement in <u>Haling v. Dowling</u> (<u>19-EEC-005</u>), in which the former Acting Director of the Illinois Department of Insurance agreed to pay \$20,625 to resolve an alleged revolving door violation.

## Sexual Harassment Investigation Leads to Employee Resignation

## Improper Property Disposal at ALPLM

The OEIG received a complaint that employees at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) were sawing a State-inventoried desk into pieces and disposing of it in a dumpster. The complaint alleged that the desk may have had historical value.

Although no historical value could be determined, the OEIG learned that the wall unit that was destroyed was part of a desk set once valued at \$22,600. The involved employees, Sam Cooper and Michael Little, did not obtain the required Department of Central Management Services approval to dispose of the property.

Mr. Cooper and Mr. Little left State employment after being interviewed by the OEIG, but before the OEIG report with findings against them was issued. A copy of the report, <u>In re: Sam</u> <u>Cooper and Michael Little (Case</u> <u>#18-01776)</u>, is available on the OEIG website.

General & Chief of Chicago Division Thomas Klein Deputy Inspector

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<u>TTY:</u> (888) 261-2734 The OEIG investigated allegations that Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) HIV/AIDS Section Chief Eduardo Alvarado engaged in inappropriate sexual conduct.

During the investigation, the OEIG found that Mr. Alvarado repeatedly engaged in unwelcome physical conduct with IDPH employees and other professional colleagues. IDPH employees also reported that Mr. Alvarado made sexually suggestive comments and spoke to employees with a raised voice and in an abusive tone.

During the investigation, the OEIG learned that Mr. Alvarado claimed on his IDPH employment applications that he had never been fired from a job, when in fact, he had been dismissed from a prior physician assistant's position as a result of complaints of sexual misconduct. Mr. Alvarado admitted during his OEIG interview that he had been fired. The OEIG also found that Mr. Alvarado was frequently late to or absent from work without using benefit time.

The OEIG concluded that Mr. Alvarado violated IDPH's prohibition on sexual harassment, engaged in verbally abusive behavior toward IDPH staff, falsified his IDPH applications, and abused State time. The OEIG recommended that IDPH terminate Mr. Alvarado's employment. Mr. Alvarado resigned from IDPH after termination proceedings were initiated.

A copy of the report, <u>In re: Eduardo Alvarado</u> (<u>Case #17-01670</u>), is available on the OEIG website.

To file a complaint with the OEIG, please visit <u>www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov</u> or call the hotline number above.