



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

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Recent News

- Acting Executive Inspector General Susan Haling testified before the Illinois House Task Force on Sexual Discrimination and Harassment on November 28, 2018.

Health Care Fraud Elimination Task Force Issues Latest Report



On December 11, 2018, the Task Force released its third report. Since the creation of the Task Force, it has reported a savings to the State of \$665 million.

Acting Executive Inspector General Susan Haling chairs the Task Force that was created to develop and coordinate a comprehensive plan to prevent and eliminate health care fraud, waste, and abuse by deploying a cross-agency, data-driven approach.

"I am very proud of the Task Force's work. The collective effort has demonstrated that cooperation between government agencies produces results," Acting EIG Haling said.

In the one and a half years since the Task Force was formed, it has cataloged best practices and developed targeted initiatives to improve Illinois practices, formed working groups to efficiently and effectively save taxpayer funds, worked to address the most problematic areas of fraud, waste, and abuse so that funds are appropriately used on those entitled to services, and put into place a framework among Illinois agencies that ensures collaboration with key players.

The latest Task Force Report outlines its work over the past year, including initiatives designed to reduce medical costs for State employees, including installing blood pressure machines at State facilities and updating the workplace injury form to include a certification that the information is accurate and that it is unlawful to intentionally provide false information. To view a copy of the Task Force Report click [here](#) or visit the OEIG website.

EEC Fines Employee for Accepting Holiday Gifts

The Executive Ethics Commission issued its decision in *Haling v. Hernandez*, and found that Robert Hernandez, who was employed at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, violated the Ethics Act's gift ban by accepting gifts from a vendor, including a gift card and a bottle of liquor for the holidays. The EEC fined Mr. Hernandez \$1,000.

The EEC noted that the vendor, Sodexo America, LLC "is a large company that does business with a number of public institutions Gifts of this nature unnecessarily complicate the lives of public servants who receive them. They can also raise the appearance of 'pay to play,' though there is absolutely no evidence of that in the present matter."

During the holiday gift-giving season, it is important for State employees to remember the Ethics Act's prohibitions on gifts from prohibited sources, such as vendors, and for prohibited sources to refrain from offering such gifts.

A copy of the EEC decision, [Haling v. Hernandez \(18 EEC 011\)](#), is available on the OEIG website.