

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

On June 22, 2012, two redacted OEIG final reports were released:

- *In re: Jimmie Miller*, 11-01052, involved a former Department of Veterans' Affairs employee who violated policies and procedures pertaining to hiring practices. Mr. Miller resigned.
- *In re: Daniel Reardon and James Crane*, 10-00034, involved former IDOC employees who released confidential information. Both individuals retired.
- On June 25, 2012, the Executive Ethics Commission released a disciplinary decision:
- *Meza v. van den Dries*, 11-EEC-009, involved a Univ. of Illinois professor who, for four years, failed to complete state employee ethics training. Prof. van den Dries was fined \$500. Also, the OEIG is pleased to announce the appointment of five new employees to its Chicago staff:
- Attorney **Diana Villamil Zuver** will serve as an assistant inspector general.
- Edward Doyle and Francis "Pat" Foley are appointed investigators in the general investigative division, and Eugene "Scott" Mose and Maria T. Ortega will serve as investigators in the Regional Transit Board Investigative Division.

Fiscal Year 2012 Highlights



Fiscal Year 2012 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) was a very productive year for our agency. During FY12, the OEIG:

- received a record 2,492 complaints of alleged misconduct;
- opened 155 investigations:
- concluded 135 investigations; and
- referred over 70 matters to appropriate law enforcement.

Contributing to the 22% increase in complaints received by the OEIG was our added responsibility to function as executive inspector general for the Regional Transportation Authority, Chicago Transit Authority, Metra, and Pace. Our investigative focus and limited resources also resulted in 2,030 referrals to affected agency staff for their own evaluation, a record amount for the OEIG. In addition, this year we made 103 revolving door employment determinations and provided oversight to more than 190,000 employee ethics training sessions.

More importantly, 30 redacted OEIG final investigative reports, wherein misconduct was found, were publicly disclosed. These reports included one that detailed wide-ranging failures at DCFS and other agencies involving, among other things, the failure to adequately oversee more than \$18 million in public grants, and two other reports relating to an IDOT division director who abused state resources. We believe the public release of such reports has a significant deterrent effect on misconduct and despite our failure to amend the Ethics Act to obtain greater transparency, we will continue to push for release of additional investigative reports.

Ricardo Meza

Executive Inspector General

Recent CLE Sessions

Recently, OEIG legal staff made continuing legal education (CLE) presentations to attorneys at numerous state agencies.

Over 130 state employees attended the Springfield and Chicago meetings.

CLE topics included:

- revolving door determinations and appeals;
- the OEIG's primary functions; and
- other provisions of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act.

The OEIG welcomes the opportunity to explain the functions of our office and the applicable law to any group. Any interested party should contact our office to arrange for a staff member to make a presentation.

Cole S. Kain

Chief of Staff & General Counsel

Calendar of Events: July 17-18, 2012: Dep. IG Kassem will attend Rutan interview training, Springfield, IL.; August 2012: OEIG 2012 Annual Report to be released; August 6-7, 2012: HR Director Washington will attend the SHRM HR conference, Oak Brook, IL.