Recent News

Recent public disclosures of OEIG investigative reports include:

- **In re: Clyde Redfield and Barbara Pinder, 10-00649**, involved IDES employees who abused state time. Mr. Redfield was terminated and fined, and other employees were disciplined.

- **In re: Linda Saterfield, et al., 09-01147**, involved more than $200,000 in fraud related to a DHS administered child care program. This matter was also referred to the Office of the Illinois Attorney General.

- **In re: Robert Spence, 11-00693**, involved a DHS employee who violated sexual harassment directives and other policies. Mr. Spence resigned.

In other news, the OEIG is pleased to announce a recent change to its staff:

- **Joie Devoney** was appointed director finance and administration effective March 25, 2014. She will oversee the OEIG’s financial and human resources functions.

OEIG Funding for FY 2015

In FY12, the OEIG’s General Revenue Fund appropriation was reduced by about 17%. Although since that time the OEIG has been able to recoup a small portion of the FY12 cut (about 3%), OEIG GRF funding is presently at its lowest since about 2006.

Despite these facts, bills recently introduced in the Illinois House and Senate call for a further reduction, of about 15%, to our FY15 GRF appropriation request (which was “flat” over FY14).

The OEIG appreciates the state’s dire financial straits and also recognizes that state agencies are being asked to do more with less. We also appreciate the fact that budget bills may be amended if additional revenue sources are available. Nevertheless, we believe cutting the budget of the state agency that saves Illinois money by investigating employees who engage in wrongful conduct and expose insider dealings is misguided, short-sighted and sends the wrong message to Illinois citizens.

The OEIG looks forward to working with members of the General Assembly to restore our funding to levels that allow us to perform our statutorily required duties of investigating waste, fraud and abuse in state agencies under our jurisdiction.

**Ricardo Meza**
Executive Inspector General

OEIG Names New Investigations Leader

The OEIG is very pleased to announce the appointment of Kristy Shores as first deputy inspector general. Ms. Shores joined the OEIG in 2007, first serving as assistant inspector general and subsequently as deputy inspector general for general investigations.

“I am committed to the office’s mission of producing objective, thorough, and timely investigations, and welcome this leadership opportunity.”

– Kristy Shores

As FDIG, Ms. Shores will provide oversight to all general investigative activity of the OEIG performed by staff in both its Springfield and Chicago offices. In addition, Ms. Shores will also provide oversight to the OEIG’s Regional Transit Board Division, which conducts investigations relating to Metra, the RTA, Pace and the CTA.

**Calendar of Events:**
April 23, 2014: Legislative AIG Benavente will attend ACFE Legal Elements of Fraud Examination training; and
April 24, 2014: Investigator Chan will attend a law enforcement seminar.