Recent News

On December 19, 2013, an OEIG investigative report was publicly disclosed:

- **In re: Holly Hall-Harbin, 11-02060**, involved a DHS employee who violated DHS policies and failed to cooperate with OEIG investigators. Ms. Hall-Harbin was discharged.

In other news, the OEIG has open positions in its Chicago and Springfield offices, including Director of Finance and Administration. See our website for details.

**The Executive Ethics Commission Issues Fines Totaling $4,000 Involving Two Separate OEIG Investigations**

On December 18, 2013, the EEC issued fines totaling $4,000 in two unrelated matters investigated by the OEIG. Both instances involved individuals who engaged in misconduct and who intentionally and unlawfully obstructed the OEIG’s investigations.

**Meza v. Redfield, 14-EEC-004**, involved 37-year IDES employee Clyde Redfield. An investigation concluded that while simultaneously employed by IDES and enrolled as a part-time university student, Mr. Redfield engaged in misconduct by, among other things:

- using his state email account to perform schoolwork; and
- using his state computer to transmit school-related presentations and to request other state employees to edit school-related documents during state time.

Mr. Redfield, who made multiple false statements to investigators relating to his activities, resigned from IDES effective one day after the OEIG released its report. Mr. Redfield’s non-cooperation was referred to the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, which subsequently filed charges against him. The EEC found that Mr. Redfield (unsuccessfully) attempted to obstruct or interfere with the OEIG’s investigation and fined him $2,500.

“It is Mr. Redfield’s second offense for substantially the same misconduct: conducting personal business on State-compensated time, and then obstructing and interfering with an OEIG investigation into the underlying misconduct …” – EEC Decision 14-EEC-004

On December 18, 2013, the EEC also issued its decision in **Meza v. Caffey, 13-EEC-021**, which involved IDVA Nursing Assistant Sherri Caffey. This investigation revealed that Ms. Caffey engaged in prohibited political activity in violation of the Ethics Act. Ms. Caffey made dozens of political calls during state-compensated time, yet, when interviewed, falsely denied working on a political campaign or engaging in political activity. The Office of the Illinois Attorney General charged Ms. Caffey with violations of the Ethics Act.

“[Ms. Caffey] knowingly and intentionally made numerous material false statements, misstatements, and omissions during the course of her interviews … with the intent to obstruct and interfere with OEIG investigators …” – EEC Decision 13-EEC-021

Ms. Caffey was fined $1,500 for her prohibited political activities and failure to cooperate. The OEIG’s Chicago Investigation Division led both investigations.

**Correction:** In our December 19, 2013 newsletter, we stated that new administrative rules regarding Revolving Door notification obligations required statements from ethics officers. Statements from ethics officers were always required, but the revised rules require they be submitted within 5 calendar days after receiving employee notification.