



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

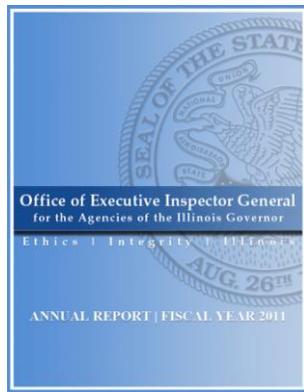
The Executive Ethics Commission recently issued three redacted final reports related to the following matters investigated by the OEIG:

- *In re: Alvin Forbes*, 10-01167, involved an Illinois Department of Human Rights employee who engaged in prohibited political activity and misused State property. Mr. Forbes received an oral reprimand from the Department of Human Rights.
- *In re: Eric Knuth*, 08-00687, involved an Eastern Illinois University (EIU) employee who violated university policy by viewing and storing 1,600 pornographic images on his university-provided computer. Mr. Knuth received a two-day suspension from EIU.
- *In re: Tressa Hoffman*, 10-00832, involved an Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) employee who violated IDNR policies by conducting personal business on State time and who violated the Ethics Act's gift ban. Ms. Hoffman received a suspension of three workdays from IDNR.

We encourage individuals to visit the OEIG website to read the full reports and decisions.

Since July 1, 2011, nearly all 15,000 employees of the regional transit boards (RTA, CTA, Metra, and Pace) have completed their initial ethics training.

OEIG Releases FY 2011 Annual Report



The OEIG recently released its Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report. The report documents the office's key activities for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. In it, you will find:

- a breakdown of the sources of allegations submitted to the OEIG;
- data concerning the types and frequency of investigations; and
- a flowchart that illustrates how allegations are processed.

The annual report also contains short narratives, which describe the various OEIG investigative reports that have been publically released by the Executive Ethics Commission. The report also contains brief summaries of decisions issued by the Executive Ethics Commission in instances where the commission held hearings concerning individuals found to have violated the Ethics Act.

The annual report will be of interest to anyone seeking to better understand the workings of our office and our role in ensuring the integrity of State government. The entire report may be found on our website (www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov) under the "Reports and Publications" tab.

Ricardo Meza
Executive Inspector General

OEIG Staff Additions

The OEIG is pleased to announce the appointment of two new staff members who joined the office on August 29, 2011:

- Christine Benavente, most recently in practice with a large law firm, will serve as an assistant inspector general.
- Jayne Wadsworth, most recently employed by a large insurance services firm and formerly an investigative intern for the OEIG, will serve as an investigator.

Wendy Washington
Director of Human
Resources

Calendar of Events: *September 14, 2011* - Director of Investigations James Bonk will attend the Association of Inspectors General board meeting. *September 14, 2011* - Executive Inspector General Meza and Chief of Staff and General Counsel Cole Kain will meet with a delegation of government officials from Shenyang, China. *September 28, 2011* - Executive Inspector General Ricardo Meza will speak to the State of Illinois Internal Audit Advisory Board in Springfield, IL. *October 2-8, 2011* - Executive Inspector General Meza will participate in Harvard's Strategic Management of Regulatory and Enforcement Agencies program.