



# 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 OEIG is pleased to announce that **Viktorija Legge** began as a Hiring and Employment Monitoring (HEM) Analyst in the Springfield office.

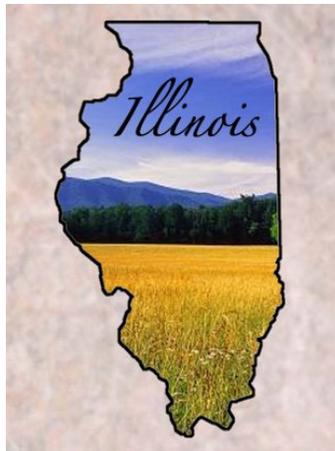
### **OEIG Finds Oak Park Township Overbilled for Paratransit Rides**

The OEIG has jurisdiction over all vendors and others doing business with the four Chicago-area Regional Transit Boards. Through 2016, Pace contracted with Oak Park Township to subsidize “Dial-A-Ride” paratransit services. An OEIG investigation concluded that the Township inflated the number of passengers, resulting in overpayment by Pace.

The OEIG investigation concluded that, between 2012 and 2016, the Township inflated billing by reporting over 60,000 rides that were never actually delivered, costing Pace more than \$130,000.

After the OEIG began its investigation, Pace chose not to renew its agreement with the Township. The OEIG recommended that Pace ensure the accuracy of paratransit ridership reports. Pace has issued an operations bulletin to all municipal service providers describing how to accurately report ridership.

A copy of the report, [\*\*\*In re: Oak Park Township \(Case #16-00230\)\*\*\*](#) is available for download on the OEIG website, [inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov](http://inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov).



### **IDOT Division of Aeronautics Mismanagement: OEIG Report**

An OEIG investigation into the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)’s Division of Aeronautics determined that IDOT personnel mismanaged State aircraft by allowing employees to conduct non-State business during regular work hours, using State aircraft for non-State business purposes, and allowing uncertified personnel to have their hands on the controls of State helicopters while in flight.

The OEIG found that during September 2015, three IDOT employees used State aircraft for non-work purposes, including on at least two occasions travelling on State time and in State aircraft to test helicopter flight simulators for a private company. The OEIG also found that IDOT Bureau of Aeronautics pilots, on multiple occasions, allowed personnel who were not certified to fly helicopters to have their hands on the controls of State helicopters while in flight.

One IDOT employee left IDOT in November 2015, to begin work as a pilot for a private company.

The OEIG recommended that two employees be disciplined and that the former employee not be rehired. IDOT discharged one employee and the other resigned. A copy of the report, [\*\*\*In re: Young, Spaniol and Thorpe \(Case #15-02236\)\*\*\*](#) is available on the OEIG website.