



# 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 the promotion of **Mallory Hancock** to the position of Investigator in the General Investigations Division of the Springfield office.
- The Executive Ethics Commission released a founded OEIG report in addition to the two founded reports discussed below: [In re: Steve Hilgers \(Case #15-01408\)](#).
- The EEC affirmed the OEIG's revolving door restriction of the former Deputy Director of Medical Cannabis for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. [In re: Tara Byrne Meyer \(20-EEC-002\)](#).

### IDVA Assistant Director Engaged in Sexual Harassment

The OEIG received a complaint that the Assistant Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA), Harry Sawyer, engaged in sexual harassment by making inappropriate, sexually-oriented comments, and used a racial slur on at least two occasions.

During the investigation, the OEIG found that on four occasions Mr. Sawyer made inappropriate sexual comments to women employees. The comments were a variation of implicit sexual references, sexual innuendo regarding the women employees' bodies, and remarks about the women with a double sexual meaning.

The OEIG investigation also revealed that Mr. Sawyer used a racial slur to refer to an African-American employee on two different occasions when talking to other IDVA employees. In another instance, Mr. Sawyer made a race-based comment about an African-American employee's hair.

The OEIG concluded that Mr. Sawyer's sexually harassing conduct violated the IDVA Handbook's prohibition against sexual harassment, and that his use of highly offensive, race-based language violated the State of Illinois Code of Personal Conduct. The OEIG found insufficient evidence to conclude that Mr. Sawyer's conduct violated the Ethics Act's prohibition on sexual harassment. IDVA accepted his resignation before the conclusion of the OEIG investigation. A copy of the report, [In re: Harry Sawyer \(Case #18-00921\)](#), is available on the OEIG website.

### University Employee Misused Resources

The OEIG investigated allegations that an employee of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), Richard Gallivan, used UIUC resources for his personal business.

The OEIG investigation revealed that Mr. Gallivan operated a private drafting and design business. The OEIG found that Mr. Gallivan used his UIUC email for his personal business in violation of UIUC policy. In addition, the OEIG found that Mr. Gallivan improperly used a licensed architectural design software product for his personal business when he obtained it through UIUC's "educational use" license. In response to the report, UIUC disciplined Mr. Gallivan, and advised him regarding appropriate use of university resources and the applicable policy on disclosure of outside activities.

A copy of the report is available on the OEIG website: [In re: Richard Gallivan \(Case #17-02400\)](#).