



Illinois Ethics Matters

August 2, 2017

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Honesty, Integrity, Service

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies
of the Illinois Governor

Office of Executive Inspector General

Margaret A. Hickey
Executive Inspector
General

Susan Haling
First Assistant
Inspector General

Daniel Hurtado
General Counsel

Fallon Opperman
Deputy Inspector
General & Chief of
Chicago Division

Thomas Klein
Deputy Inspector
General & Chief of
Springfield Division

Claudia P. Ortega
Chief Administrative
Officer

Chicago Office:

69 W. Washington St.
Suite 3400
Chicago, IL 60602
(312) 814-5600

Springfield Office:

607 E. Adams St.
14th Floor
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 558-5600

Hotline:

Phone: (866) 814-1113

TTY:

(888) 261-2734

Recent News

The OEIG is pleased to announce that **Moein Khawaja** began as an Assistant Inspector General in the Springfield office.

DCFS Director Mismanaged Hiring and Procurement Oversight



The OEIG and the Inspector General of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) conducted a joint investigation into allegations of wrongdoing by DCFS and then-DCFS Director George Sheldon. The OEIG and DCFS IG found reasonable cause to believe that:

- Director Sheldon violated conflict of interest rules by awarding a no-bid contract that benefitted an individual with whom Director Sheldon co-owned property;
- Director Sheldon and other DCFS staff committed mismanagement by commissioning work without taking steps to ensure that the transaction complied with procurement rules;
- DCFS committed mismanagement by processing no-bid contracts as grants; and
- Director Sheldon mismanaged DCFS when he hired Igor Anderson, who in turn billed DCFS for time he did not work and drove State vehicles without a valid driver's license.

“Illinois’ conflict of interest, hiring, and procurement rules are in place to help ensure that State jobs and funds are not funneled to friends and family. It is imperative that State funds are used properly and in the best interest of the State,” said Executive Inspector General Maggie Hickey. “The OEIG is committed to vigorously investigating the application of these rules to help eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse at all levels of State government.”

Director Sheldon resigned shortly after the OEIG issued the report to the Office of the Governor. The OEIG recommended that DCFS procurement and contracts staff receive training about the requirements for grants. The OEIG also recommended that DCFS not rehire Mr. Anderson, who was terminated during the investigation, and that DCFS continue to seek reimbursement from Mr. Anderson for payments he received for time he did not work. The Office of the Governor agreed with the OEIG’s findings and recommendations. The report, [***In re: Sheldon, Anderson & Flach, Case #15-02309***](#), is available on the OEIG website.

Reminder for Ethics Officers

Ethics officers are reminded that if they have not updated their agency’s revolving door lists (Ethics Act and Procurement Code) recently in the online tracking system, please do so. Ethics officers who are unable to access the site should contact Christina McClernon with the Office of the Governor at Christina.McClernon@illinois.gov.