



# Illinois Ethics Matters

April 23, 2013

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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

**Ricardo Meza**  
Executive  
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**Rochelle Hardy**  
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Compliance Officer

**David Keahl**  
Director of Ethics  
Training & Compliance

**Wendy Washington**  
Director of Human  
Resources

**Chicago Office:**  
32 W. Randolph Street  
Suite 1900  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 814-5600

**Springfield Office:**  
607 E. Adams Street  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 558-5600

**Hotline:**  
Phone: (866) 814-1113

**TTY:**  
(888) 261-2734

## Recent News

On April 10, 2013, the EEC issued a disciplinary decision:

- **Meza v. Cameron**, 13-EEC-011, involved IDOT employee Jerry Cameron, who admitted that he violated the Ethics Act's gift ban. Mr. Cameron was fined \$250.

In other news:

- The OEIG is pleased to announce that **Tara Grimm** was appointed assistant inspector general in the OEIG's Chicago office, effective March 25, 2013.
- Reminder: the OEIG will be moving its Chicago staff effective Monday, April 29, 2013 to:

**Office of Executive Inspector General  
for the Agencies of the Illinois Governor  
69 W. Washington St., Suite 3400  
Chicago, IL 60602-3152**

## Three OEIG Investigative Reports Publicly Released



On April 15, 2013, an investigative report regarding the Illinois Department of Transportation was publicly disclosed. *In re: David Phelps, et al.*, 09-00715, involved former IDOT Assistant Secretary David Phelps and others who violated various policies relating to hiring and the selection of consultants or the Ethics Act's gift ban. Mr. Phelps is no longer a state employee, IDOT employee Danny Clayton was

terminated, other IDOT employees were suspended or counseled, and an IDOT vendor was reminded of gift ban restrictions. Mr. Clayton and IDOT employee Carrie Nelsen were previously fined \$4,000 and \$250 respectively for Ethics Act violations related to this investigation.

On April 10, 2013 two investigative reports were publicly disclosed:

- *In re: Adam Levinson, et al.*, 11-00391, involved a former University of Illinois employee and a vendor who violated university policies and/or the Ethics Act's gift ban.
- *In re: John Hastings*, 12-00447, involved an employee's violation of Illinois Department on Aging policies. The subject was terminated.

Copies of these and other publicly disclosed OEIG investigative reports may be found on our website.

**Ricardo Meza**  
Executive Inspector General

## Revolving Door Court Challenge—Dismissed

On March 29, 2013, the Circuit Court of Cook County issued a decision in:

*April Lasker v. Executive Ethics Commission, et al.*,  
12 CH 14264.

The *Lasker* decision relates to an OEIG determination under the revolving door provisions involving a former Illinois Housing Development Authority employee.

Upon appeal by the Office of Attorney General, the OEIG's determination was vacated. April Lasker then filed a challenge to the constitutionality of the Ethics Act's revolving door provisions, which was dismissed by the Circuit Court.

For details about the decision, please visit the OEIG's website (*see* Revolving Door Decisions page within the Revolving Door drop-down menu).

**Daniel Hurtado**  
Special Counsel

**Calendar of Events:** May 2-3, 2013: EIG Meza will participate in Association of Inspectors General board meetings, via video conference; and the Office of Auditor General has informed the OEIG that it will soon begin its audit of the OEIG for the two years ended June 30, 2013.