



# 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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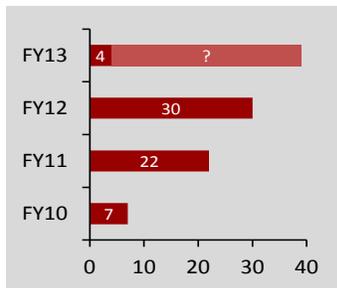
## Recent News

The Executive Ethics Commission (EEC) has issued decisions concerning attorney general appeals of two OEIG revolving door determinations:

- **In re: Patricia McDorman**, 13-EEC-001. On July 19, 2012, the EEC affirmed the OEIG's determination that Ms. McDorman's proposed employment *would not* violate the Ethics Act.
- **In re: Kathie Wagle**, 13-EEC-002. On July 25, 2012, the EEC vacated the OEIG's determination and found that Ms. Wagle's proposed employment *would* violate the Ethics Act. In other news, the OEIG is pleased to announce that:
- **Daniel Hurtado** has been appointed special counsel. Dan holds a BA from the University of Michigan and a MA and JD from Northwestern University. He has extensive litigation experience.

## Four Reports Already Publicly Released in FY13

Number of Published Reports



Four more OEIG investigative reports have been publicly disclosed since the new fiscal year began on July 1, 2012. Included is the first publicly disclosed report regarding an investigation conducted by the OEIG's Regional Transit Board Investigative Division. The

released reports include:

- **In re: Lolita Hargrave**, 12-00038, involved a former CTA employee who tried to extend her disability benefits by falsifying a physician's form. Ms. Hargrave resigned.
- **In re: Nick Kanellopoulos**, 09-00911, involved a CMS employee who violated the Illinois Procurement Code. Mr. Kanellopoulos was suspended and counseled.
- **In re: Mark Pruitt and Kristene Callanta**, 11-00517, involved the former director of the Illinois Power Agency (IPA) who, among other things, violated the Illinois Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act and the IPA Act. Mr. Pruitt is no longer IPA Director.
- **In re: LaJanice Sanderson**, 11-00189, involved a former DHS employee who improperly awarded food stamps. Ms. Sanderson was allowed to resign.

We continue to believe that the public disclosure of investigative reports documenting significant violations of laws, rules, policies, or regulations is in the public interest.

**Ricardo Meza**  
Executive Inspector General

## EEC Levies \$1,750 in Fines

On July 25, 2012, the Executive Ethics Commission issued two decisions concerning complaints previously filed by the Office of the Illinois Attorney General on behalf of the OEIG:

- **Meza v. Hopgood**, 11-EEC-007, involved a former EIU employee who violated the Ethics Act by failing to cooperate with OEIG investigators. The EEC fined Ms. Hopgood \$1,500.
- **Meza v. Nelsen**, 11-EEC-011, involved an IDOT employee who violated the Ethics Act by accepting sporting events tickets from a state vendor. The EEC fined Ms. Nelsen \$250.

The EEC's \$1,500 fine against Ms. Hopgood is one of the largest imposed to date and illustrates the importance of why witnesses must be truthful when responding to investigators' questions.

**Cole Kain**  
Chief of Staff & General Counsel

**Calendar of Events:** August 2012: Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies of the Illinois Governor 2012 Annual Report to be released; August 20-24, 2012: Investigator Amber Range will attend Certified IG Investigator training; September 15, 2012: EIG Meza will speak to the Hispanic Illinois State Law Enforcement Association.