



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

On January 23, 2013, an OEIG investigative report was publicly disclosed:

- ***In re: Meza v. Brown***, 14-EEC-003, involved an IDOT employee who violated the Ethics Act by engaging in prohibited political activity and by intentionally obstructing the OEIG's investigation of his misconduct. Mr. Brown was fined \$4,000.

In other news, the OEIG is pleased to announce:

- **David Keahl** is appointed chief of staff & director of ethics training & compliance.
- New OEIG employees: **Ajay Alexander** will serve as an assistant inspector general in the Regional Transit Board Division and **Shawn Miller** will serve as an investigator in the Springfield Division.

OEIG Report Reveals IDFPF Mismanagement



On January 31, 2014, an OEIG investigative report, ***In re: Joel Campuzano and Ron Puccillo***, was publicly disclosed. The matter began as an investigation into allegations that Executive

Manager Joel Campuzano of the Athletics Unit of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation engaged in misconduct. The investigation then expanded to include other IDFPF staff. After conducting its investigation, the OEIG concluded that:

- Mr. Campuzano and now-retired director of the Athletics Unit Ron Puccillo were inexplicably unaware of various legal requirements relating to their job duties, such as license qualifications, the collection and imposition of fees, and restrictions on ringside seating;
- IDFPF staff collected various "fees" from contestants and officials without any legal authority to do so; and
- IDFPF's Athletics Unit lacked adequate record-keeping and basic accounting procedures.

In light of the above findings, the OEIG recommended that Mr. Campuzano, whom IDFPF had placed on paid administrative leave, be discharged. Mr. Puccillo retired. Although IDFPF terminated Mr. Campuzano, an arbitrator reversed the termination, issued a 10-day suspension, and awarded Mr. Campuzano partial back-pay.

Please see our website for copies of this and other publicly disclosed investigative reports.

Ricardo Meza
Executive Inspector General

Reminder: Prohibited Political Activity

As the March 18, 2014 primary election and November 4, 2014 general election draw nearer, we remind all state employees, including faculty and other staff at all nine state public universities, of applicable provisions of the Ethics Act. State employees may not intentionally misappropriate state property or resources by engaging in prohibited political activities such as soliciting votes or preparing or distributing campaign literature. State resources include state telephones and state email accounts.

State employees are also generally prohibited from engaging in most political activities during state-compensated time other than vacation, personal, or compensatory time off. For purposes of the Ethics Act, state-compensated time does not include designated state holidays.

Persons who violate the Ethics Act's prohibited political activity provisions face fines of up to \$5,000. See ***In re: Meza v. Brown*** referenced above.

David Keahl
Chief of Staff & Director of
Ethics Training & Compliance

Calendar of Events: February 19-20, 2014: AIG Anderson and Investigator Hughes will attend *Rutan* Interview training; February 24-28 2014: AIG Benavente and Investigators Doyle and Whelan will attend Association of Inspectors General training; February 25, 2014: Director Washington will attend Excel training; February 28, 2014: EIG Meza will be panelist for "Understanding the Role & Impact of Lobbyists in Illinois" at a forum sponsored by the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform; March 27, 2014: Investigator Brandenburg will attend Excel training.