



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

Office of Executive Inspector General

Ricardo Meza
Executive
Inspector General

Cole S. Kain
Chief of Staff &
General Counsel

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

Erin K. Bonales
Deputy Inspector General &
Chief of Chicago Division

Laura K. Bautista
Deputy Inspector General &
Chief of Springfield Division

Fallon Opperman
Deputy Inspector General &
Chief of Regional Transit
Board Division

Rochelle Hardy
Chief Financial &
Compliance 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

On December 19, 2013, an OEIG investigative report was publicly disclosed:

- ***In re: Holly Hall-Harbin***, 11-02060, involved a DHS employee who violated DHS policies and failed to cooperate with OEIG investigators. Ms. Hall-Harbin was discharged.

In other news, the OEIG has open positions in its Chicago and Springfield offices, including Director of Finance and Administration. See our website for details.

The Executive Ethics Commission Issues Fines Totaling \$4,000 Involving Two Separate OEIG Investigations



On December 18, 2013, the EEC issued fines totaling \$4,000 in two unrelated matters investigated by the OEIG. Both instances involved individuals who engaged in misconduct and who intentionally and unlawfully obstructed the OEIG's investigations.

Meza v. Redfield, 14-EEC-004, involved 37-year IDES employee Clyde Redfield. An investigation concluded that while simultaneously employed by IDES and enrolled as a part-time university student, Mr.

Redfield engaged in misconduct by, among other things:

- using his state email account to perform schoolwork; and
- using his state computer to transmit school-related presentations and to request other state employees to edit school-related documents during state time.

Mr. Redfield, who made multiple false statements to investigators relating to his activities, resigned from IDES effective one day after the OEIG released its report. Mr. Redfield's non-cooperation was referred to the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, which subsequently filed charges against him. The EEC found that Mr. Redfield (unsuccessfully) attempted to obstruct or interfere with the OEIG's investigation and fined him \$2,500.

“this is [Mr. Redfield's] second offense for substantially the same misconduct: conducting personal business on State-compensated time, and then obstructing and interfering with an OEIG investigation into the underlying misconduct ...” – EEC Decision 14-EEC-004

On December 18, 2013, the EEC also issued its decision in ***Meza v. Caffey***, 13-EEC-021, which involved IDVA Nursing Assistant Sherri Caffey. This investigation revealed that Ms. Caffey engaged in prohibited political activity in violation of the Ethics Act. Ms. Caffey made dozens of political calls during state-compensated time, yet, when interviewed, falsely denied working on a political campaign or engaging in political activity. The Office of the Illinois Attorney General charged Ms. Caffey with violations of the Ethics Act.

“[Ms. Caffey] knowingly and intentionally made numerous material false statements, misstatements, and omissions during the course of her interviews ... with the intent to obstruct and interfere with OEIG investigators ...” – EEC Decision 13-EEC-021

Ms. Caffey was fined \$1,500 for her prohibited political activities and failure to cooperate. The OEIG's Chicago Investigation Division led both investigations.

Erin Bonales
Deputy Inspector General &
Chief of Chicago Division

Correction: In our December 19, 2013 newsletter, we stated that new administrative rules regarding Revolving Door notification obligations required statements from ethics officers. Statements from ethics officers were always required, but the revised rules require they be submitted within 5 calendar days after receiving employee notification.

Calendar of Events: *January 28, 2014:* Investigator Noel will attend Excel training in Chicago; *February 19-20, 2014:* AIGs Anderson and Grant will attend *Rutan* interview training in Springfield; *February 24-28 2014:* Investigator Doyle will attend Association of Inspectors General training in San Antonio, TX.; *February 25, 2014:* Director Washington will attend Excel training in Chicago; *March 27, 2014:* Investigator Brandenburg will attend Excel training in Springfield.