



AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Employee Fraud Hotline Report

For the Period July through December 2013 Update #25

I am pleased to present the Semiannual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period July through December 2013. The Employee Fraud Hotline was established as an avenue to report fraud, waste, and abuse occurring at the County of Ventura. I encourage employees to resolve concerns through their normal administrative channels whenever possible. However, the Employee Fraud Hotline provides an alternative reporting mechanism to ensure that concerns about possible wrongdoing in our County government are properly addressed. This report reflects information provided to the Board of Supervisors on January 28, 2014.

Jeffery S. Burgh
Acting Agency Director/Assistant Auditor-Controller

THREE WAYS TO CONTACT THE HOTLINE

Call: (805) 644-6019

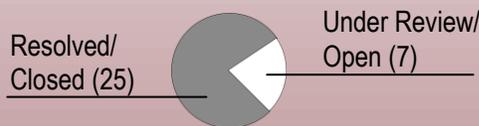
Write: Employee Fraud Hotline
Ventura County Auditor-Controller
Administration Building L#1540
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

E-Mail *: Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org
* E-mail is not confidential



HOTLINE ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE . . . During July through December 2013, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 32 new complaints of improper activity, of which we pursued 22 (69%). Eight of the new issues were not pursued because the complainants were redirected to other hotlines or other appropriate agencies, and two issues were not pursued due to insufficient information.

As of December 31, 2013, most of the 32 new issues have been resolved/closed:



During July through December 2013, we resolved/closed a total of 30 Hotline issues out of the 40 total complaints that were under review/open (32 new complaints and 8 complaints from prior periods):

Summary Outcomes of 30 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during July-December 2013

Table with 2 columns: Outcome and Count. Rows include Substantiated (3), Unsubstantiated (17), Redirected to Other Hotlines/Agencies (8), and Insufficient Information (2).

Most of the new complaints were made by phone:

Table with 2 columns: Contact Method and Percentage. Rows include Phone (72%), Regular Mail (16%), E-Mail (6%), and In Person (6%).

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS

- 1. Time Abuse. An employee consistently arrived to work late. The employee's supervisor addressed attendance issues with the employee, and will continue to monitor the situation and implement appropriate corrective measures as deemed necessary.
2. Abuse of County Internet Access. An employee inappropriately used County Internet access for personal purposes. The department reported that the employee's supervisor would take action to ensure the employee adheres to technology-related policies.
3. Improper Solicitation. An employee improperly solicited to sell items for private gain during work hours at the employee's work facility. Management reminded staff of County policy and will monitor staff's adherence to policy.