



AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Employee Fraud Hotline Report

For the Period January through June 2015 Update #28

I am pleased to present the Semiannual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period January through June 2015. 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 July 28, 2015.

Jeffery S. Burgh 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 *:

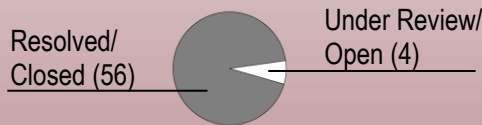
Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org

* E-mail is not confidential



HOTLINE ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE . . . During January through June 2015, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 60 new complaints of improper activity, of which we pursued 26 (43%). Thirty-one (31) of the new issues were not pursued because the complainants were redirected to other hotlines or other appropriate agencies, and 3 issues were not pursued due to insufficient information.

As of June 30, 2015, most of the 60 new issues have been resolved/closed:



During January through June 2015, we resolved/closed a total of 63 Hotline issues out of the 70 total complaints that were under review/open (60 new complaints and 10 complaints from prior periods):

Summary Outcomes of 63 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during January-June 2015

Table with 2 columns: Outcome and Count. Includes Substantiated (3), Unsubstantiated (24), Redirected to Other Hotlines/Agencies (31), and Insufficient Information (5).

Most of the new complaints were made by telephone:

Table with 2 columns: Contact Method and Percentage. Includes Telephone (75%), E-Mail (18%), and U.S. or Brown Mail (7%).

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS

- 1. Employee Misconduct. A County manager demonstrated inappropriate behavior around subordinate staff. The department reported that the manager was counseled appropriately.
2. Time Abuse. An employee consistently arrived late to work, and took extended breaks and lunches. The department reportedly addressed the issue, and the supervisor/management will continue to address attendance expectations with the employee to ensure compliance with policy and procedures.
3. Disregard of Proper Procedures. An employee did not follow proper procedures when calling in absent from work. The department reportedly addressed the issue, and the supervisor/management will continue to address attendance expectations with the employee to ensure compliance with policy and procedures.