



COUNTY OF VENTURA

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Employee Fraud Hotline Report

For the Period July through December 2015 **Update #29**

I am pleased to present the Semiannual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period July through December 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 January 26, 2016.

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 *:

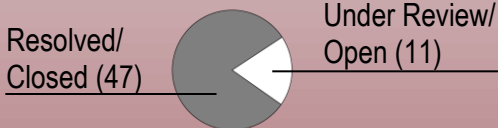
Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org

* E-mail is not confidential



HOTLINE ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE . . . During July through December 2015, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 58 new complaints of improper activity, of which we pursued 23 (40%). Thirty-three (33) of the new issues were not pursued because the complainants were redirected to other hotlines or other appropriate agencies, one issue was not pursued due to insufficient information, and one issue was retracted by the complainant.

As of December 31, 2015, most of the 58 new issues have been resolved/closed:



During July through December 2015, we resolved/closed a total of 52 Hotline issues out of the 65 total complaints that were under review/open (58 new complaints and 7 complaints from prior periods):

Summary Outcomes of 52 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during July-December 2015

| | |
|---|----|
| Substantiated (see description below) | 1 |
| Unsubstantiated | 16 |
| Redirected to Other Hotlines/Agencies | 33 |
| Insufficient Information | 1 |
| Retracted | 1 |

Most of the new complaints were made by telephone:

Contact Method

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Telephone | 84% |
| U.S. or Brown Mail | 9% |
| E-Mail | 5% |
| In Person | 2% |

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINT

Abuse of Resources. An employee used a department copier/printer for non-County purposes. Department management was aware of the concern prior to the Hotline complaint, had verbally counseled the employee, and confirmed that the issue did not continue beyond the verbal counseling previously given.