



COUNTY OF VENTURA

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Employee Fraud Hotline Report

For the Period January through June 2017 **Update #32**

I am pleased to present the Semiannual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period January through June 2017. 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 August 1, 2017.

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



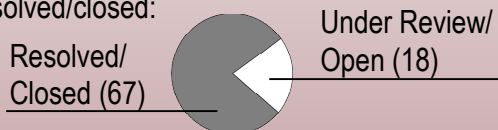
E-Mail*:

Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org

* E-mail is not confidential

HOTLINE ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE . . . During January through June 2017, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 85 new complaints, of which we pursued 38 (45%). We did not pursue 45 of the new issues because the complainants were redirected to other hotlines or other appropriate agencies, and we did not pursue 2 issues due to insufficient information.

As of June 30, 2017, most of the 85 new issues have been resolved/closed:



During January through June 2017, we resolved/closed 79 Hotline issues out of the 103 total complaints that were under review/open. Specifically, we resolved/closed 67 out of 85 new complaints, and we resolved/closed 12 out of 18 open complaints from prior periods.

Most of the new complaints were made by telephone:

Contact Method

Telephone	77%
E-Mail.....	12%
In Person	9%
U.S. or Brown Mail	2%

Summary Outcomes of 79 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during January-June 2017

Substantiated (see description below)	5
Unsubstantiated	27
Redirected to Other Hotlines/Agencies	45
Insufficient Information	2

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS

- Bullying.** Complaints were made against an employee for bullying. The employee was counseled for discourteous behavior at work and reminded of the Respectful Workplace Policy.
- Personal Use of County E-mail.** An employee used County e-mail on County time for personal use. The department instructed the employee to comply with the restrictions of the Employee Technology Use Policy.
- Noncompliance with Job Duties.** An employee of an agency with shared County oversight was not performing fundamental job duties. The agency implemented procedures to improve the employee's skills and will monitor the employee's performance closely.
- Improper Overtime.** Overtime was inappropriately authorized and scheduled for employees to achieve pay equity with different job classifications. Employee shifts are no longer subject to this overtime, wage adjustments have been approved, and Human Resources will discuss procedures for addressing pay inequities with department management.
- Personal Use of County E-Mail.** An employee used County e-mail on County time for personal use. The department issued a counseling memo addressed to and signed by the employee as a reminder to abide by the conditions set forth in the Employee Technology and E-Mail Use policies.