



AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Employee Fraud Hotline Report

For the Period January through June 2020 Update #38

I am pleased to present the Semiannual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period January through June 2020. 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, 2020.

Jeffery S. Burgh Auditor-Controller

THREE WAYS TO CONTACT THE HOTLINE

Call: (805) 644-6019

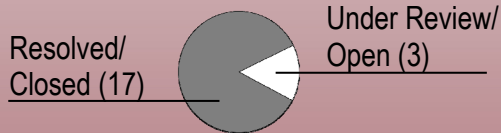
Write: Employee Fraud Hotline Ventura County Auditor-Controller Administration Building L#1540 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

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



HOTLINE ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE . . . During January through June 2020, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 20 new complaints, of which we pursued 13 (65%). We did not pursue six of the new issues because the complainants were redirected to other hotlines or other appropriate agencies, and one issue was not pursued due to insufficient information.

As of June 30, 2020, most of the 20 new issues have been resolved/closed:



During January through June 2020, we resolved/closed 22 out of the 36 total Hotline issues that were under review/open. Specifically, we resolved/closed 17 out of 20 new complaints, and we resolved/closed 5 out of 16 open complaints from prior periods.

Summary Outcomes of 22 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during January-June 2020

Table with 2 columns: Outcome and Count. Rows include Substantiated (1), Unsubstantiated (14), Redirected to Other Hotlines/Agencies (6), and Insufficient Information (1).

Most of the new complaints were made by phone:

Table with 2 columns: Contact Method and Percentage. Rows include Phone (80%) and U.S. or Interoffice Mail (20%).

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINT

Violation of Directive to Stay Home if Sick. In late March 2020, a County employee went to work while sick in violation of the County Human Resources directive to all employees: "Stay home if you are sick." The employee was contacted immediately and asked to self-isolate at home until cleared by a medical provider.