



COUNTY OF VENTURA

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

Employee Fraud Hotline Report *Update #19* For the Period July through December 2010

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

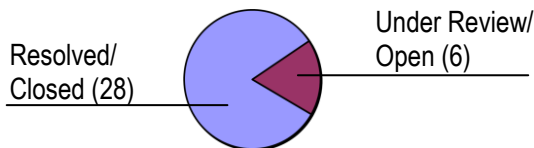
E-Mail*:
Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org
* E-mail is not confidential.

I am pleased to present the Semi-Annual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period July through December 2010. 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 25, 2011.

Christine L. Cohen
Auditor-Controller

Hotline Activity at a Glance . . . During July through December 2010, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 34 new complaints of improper activity, of which we pursued 27 (79%). Six of the new issues were not pursued because the complainants were redirected to other hotlines or other appropriate agencies, and one issue was retracted by the complainant.

As of December 31, 2010, most of the 34 new issues have been resolved/closed:



During July through December 2010, we resolved/closed a total of 35 Hotline issues out of the 48 total complaints that were under review/open (34 new complaints and 14 complaints from prior periods):

Summary Outcomes of 35 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during July-December 2010

Substantiated (see description below).....	2
Unsubstantiated	24
Redirected to Other Hotlines/Agencies.....	6
Insufficient Information	2
Retracted.....	1

Most of the new complaints were made by phone:

Contact Method

Phone	47%
Regular Mail	41%
E-mail	6%
In Person.....	6%

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS

- Improper Time Reporting.** Three days of leave were improperly reported as time worked for an employee due to a lack of communication. The department processed a time adjustment for the employee.
- Misuse of County Vehicle.** An employee inappropriately used a County vehicle for personal errands. The employee was counseled by management, and management will continue to review vehicle use logs for authorized use.