



# COUNTY OF VENTURA

# AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

## Employee Fraud Hotline Report

August – December 2001

*I am pleased to present the first Semi-Annual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline. The Hotline was established in August 2001 to provide an avenue to report incidents of 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.*

*Christine L. Cohen  
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@mail.co.ventura.ca.us

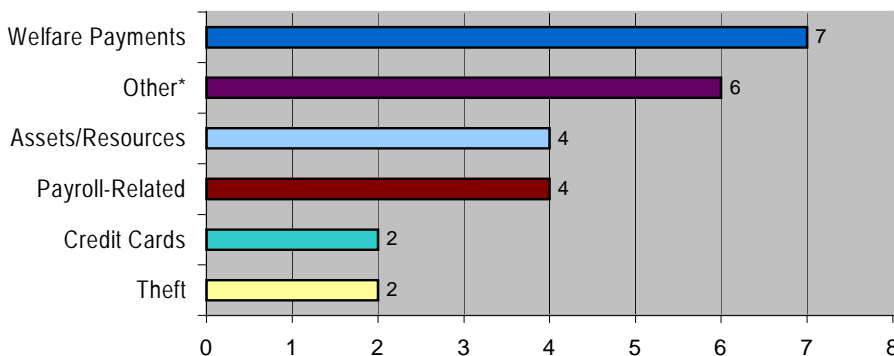
\* E-mail is not confidential.

## Hotline Activity at a Glance . . . .

During August through December 2001, we identified **25** issues from Hotline calls. We pursued 19 of the 25 issues, meaning that we ensued with some action on the issue and followed-up until the issue was closed (6 issues were not pursued and were closed immediately either because the callers were immediately referred to other County hotlines or because of insufficient information).

The types of issues identified from Hotline calls covered a broad spectrum:

**Types of Hotline Issues**



\* Included various types of Hotline issues, such as conservator payments, cash only operations, medication prescriptions, civil recovery, and billing disputes.

Most callers chose to remain anonymous, but did identify themselves as County employees:

• **Caller Anonymity:**

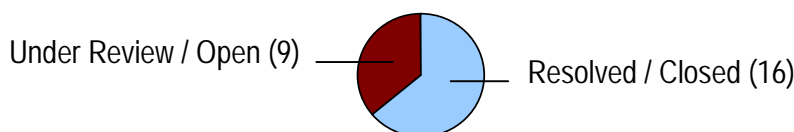
Anonymous	64%
Not Anonymous	36%

• **Call Source:**

County Employees	56%
General Public	24%
Unknown	20%

As of December 31, 2001, most of the 25 issues have been resolved / closed:

**Disposition of Issues**



Following are some examples of the results of our reviews:

- ✓ Counseled employees
- ✓ Corrected client accounts
- ✓ Improved internal controls