



# COUNTY OF VENTURA

# AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

## Employee Fraud Hotline Report ... Update #9 For the Period July through December 2005

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

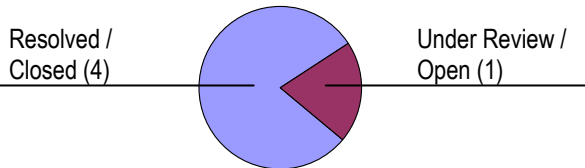
**E-Mail\*:**  
Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org  
\* E-mail is not confidential.

*I am pleased to present the Semi-Annual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline, which 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 24, 2006.*

Christine L. Cohen  
Auditor-Controller

**Hotline Activity at a Glance . . .** During July through December 2005, the Employee Fraud Hotline received five new complaints of improper governmental activities, of which we pursued three (60%), involving one payroll and two operational abuses. Two issues were not pursued because one issue was reserved as a future audit subject and one issue was closed due to insufficient information.

As of December 31, 2005, most of the five new issues have been resolved / closed:



During July through December 2005, we resolved/closed a total of 8 Hotline issues out of the 11 complaints that were under review/open (5 new complaints and 6 prior complaints):

### Summary Outcomes of 8 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during July-December 2005

Substantiated (see description below) . . .	3
Unsubstantiated . . . . .	3
Reserved as future audit subjects . . . . .	1
Insufficient information . . . . .	1

All of the five new complaints were reported by anonymous individuals.

### DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS

- Contracting with Non-Government Entities.** A County department inappropriately agreed to sell and service products to a private entity. The department discontinued its relationship with the private entity.
- Contractor Violations.** An independent contractor for the County violated the County's Living Wage Ordinance regarding compensated days off and had operational deficiencies. The contractor generated back pay for eligible employees and took measures to prevent future violations. The contractor also corrected the operational deficiencies.
- Membership in an Outside Organization.** A County agency's membership in an outside organization may not have been appropriate. The County agency resigned its membership in the outside organization.