



# COUNTY OF VENTURA

## AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

### Employee Fraud Hotline Report

For the Period July through December 2016 **Update #31**

I am pleased to present the Semiannual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period July through December 2016. 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 24, 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 \*:**

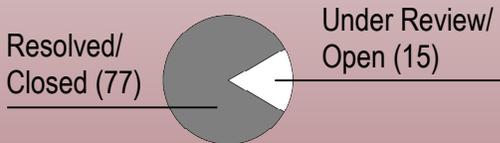
Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org

\* E-mail is not confidential



**HOTLINE ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE . . .** During July through December 2016, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 92 new complaints of improper activity, of which we pursued 32 (35%). We did not pursue 53 of the new issues because the complainants were redirected to other hotlines or other appropriate agencies, and we did not pursue 7 issues due to insufficient information.

As of December 31, 2016, most of the 92 new issues have been resolved/closed:



During July through December 2016, we resolved/closed 85 Hotline issues out of the 103 total complaints that were under review/open. Specifically, we resolved/closed 77 out of 92 new complaints, and we resolved/closed 8 out of 11 open complaints from prior periods.

#### Summary Outcomes of 85 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during July-December 2016

Substantiated (see description below).....	3
Unsubstantiated .....	21
Redirected to Other Hotlines/Agencies.....	54
Insufficient Information .....	7

Most of the new complaints were made by telephone:

#### Contact Method

Telephone .....	68%
U.S. or Brown Mail .....	22%
E-Mail .....	10%

#### DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS

- Time Abuse.** An employee regularly arrived late to work. The agency reported that the employee's tardiness issues were being addressed by the department and that the department will continue to monitor and address employees' adherence to attendance standards.
- Noncompliance with Job Duties.** An employee was not performing fundamental job duties. Management informed the employee that performance of fundamental job duties is required and confirmed that the duties are now being performed.
- Inappropriate Workplace Behavior.** An employee was disruptive in the workplace, including using inappropriate language. The employee was coached regarding improper language in the workplace, and the department will monitor the employee to ensure compliance with the agency's conduct expectations.