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OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT INSPECTOR GENERAL

PATRICK M. BLANCHARD
INSPECTOR GENERAL

69 West Washington
Suite 1160
Chicago, Illinois 60602
TEL (312) 603-0350
FAX (312) 603-9948

April 15, 2009

Honorable Todd H. Stroger
and Members of the Board of Commissioners
of Cook County, Illinois
118 North Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Re: Independent Inspector General Quarterly Report

Dear President Stroger and Members of the Board of Commissioners:

This report is written in accordance with section 2-287 of the Independent Inspector General Ordinance, Cook County, Ill., Ordinances 07-O-52 (2007), to apprise you of the activities of this office during the time period of January 1, 2009 through March 30, 2008.

Initially, please be aware that, in accordance with section 2-284(3), we have undertaken a review and amendment of all legal forms and procedures where appropriate to ensure adherence to the constitutional principles of due process and equal protection. In connection with our efforts to reach out to all Cook County employees to inform them of their rights and responsibilities under the OIIG ordinance, we have continued to engage in presentations to line and supervisory staff and are near the conclusion of my effort to meet with each Cook County department head to discuss these important issues and develop a direct line of communication.

We have also developed a new process for the identification of candidates and selection procedures for OIIG personnel. Deputy Inspector General Jean Harlow and I have screened hundreds of applicants seeking a position within this office. We have conducted approximately 100 interviews of the best qualified candidates that included a first round interview and call-back interview of the most impressive candidates. We have identified 5 exceptional individuals that collectively represent a diverse professional background to join this office. They are currently in the processing stage. Upon hire, they will undergo a newly created OIIG orientation/training program that includes a careful overview of OIIG protocol and procedures, Cook County rules and applicable ordinances, as well as applicable state and federal law.



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In connection with the number of complaints received during the subject reporting period, please be advised that this office has received a total of 81 complaints. By way of comparison, during the first reporting period of 2008, 24 cases were reported. As indicated to you in the last report, we have undertaken a triage process of each complaint and immediately initiate an investigation when appropriate. The remaining complaints will be the subject of formal inquiry at the appropriate time. Accordingly, please be aware that of the 81 complaints received by this office, 36 active investigations were initiated during the subject period. This number also includes those investigations resulting from the exercise of my own initiative (sec. 2-284(2)).

36 cases initiated:

- 1 Violation of Ethics Ordinance
- 2 Dual Employment
- 1 Violation of local laws - vendor management
- 1 Waste
- 1 Political discrimination
- 1 Violation of Human Resources Ordinance/Political discrimination
- 3 Theft
- 2 Falsifying of County Documents
- 1 Negligence
- 2 Failure to Report Arrest
- 1 Misuse of confidential or proprietary information
- 11 Shakman Post-SRO Complaints (Referred to the Complaint Administrator)

In addition to the matters that have been opened this quarter, the OIIG also has 23 active cases that remain pending since the date of the last report. Many of these cases are in-line for closure and will be resolved during the coming weeks. In accordance with section 2-287(4), please note that 1 recommendation was made to an elected official (President Stroger) for the imposition of discipline which was followed.

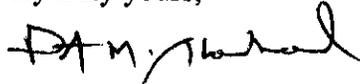
During the course of this time period, 2 investigations have been initiated involving employees of a separate elected official. They involve allegations of a failure to act in accordance with county policy and official misconduct. (Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court).

Finally, please be aware that the OIIG has referred 1 matter to the Office of the State's Attorney of Cook County during this reporting period.

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Thank you for your time and attention to these issues. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this report further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. M. Blanchard", written in a cursive style.

Patrick M. Blanchard
Independent Inspector General