



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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January 25, 2023

TO: Supervisor Janice Hahn, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

FROM: Arlene Barrera
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **FRAUD HOTLINE SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT – JANUARY 1, 2022
THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022**

The Auditor-Controller's Office of County Investigations (OCI) operates the Los Angeles County (County) Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Hotline (Hotline) pursuant to California Government Code Section (§) 53087.6. Pursuant to California Penal Code § 830.13 and Board of Supervisors Policy 9.040, OCI investigates or refers for investigation alleged criminal and administrative misconduct within County government.

OCI also tracks and compiles the results of Hotline investigations referred to, and conducted by, other County departments to ensure the allegations are properly investigated.

This report summarizes investigations concerning allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse of resources that were completed between January and June 2022, including statistical summaries, criminal prosecution results, and disciplinary and/or corrective actions imposed.

Investigative Results

Investigative Activity

- **458** Cases Completed Countywide
 - **100 Substantiated (21.8%)**
- **519** New Cases Reported (**11.6% increase** from prior period)
- **897** Cases Under Active Investigation (**7.3% increase** from prior period)

The following chart summarizes Hotline case investigative activity for the current period, which ended with **897 open cases** under investigation.

Comparison of Current Case Counts with the Prior Reporting Period

CASE STATUS	SEMI-ANNUAL PERIOD ENDING		
	12/31/2021	06/30/2022	% Increase (Decrease)
Beginning Caseload	794 ¹	836	5.3%
- Cases Closed	(423)	(458)	8.3%
+ New Cases Opened	465	519	11.6%
Ending Caseload	836	897	7.3%

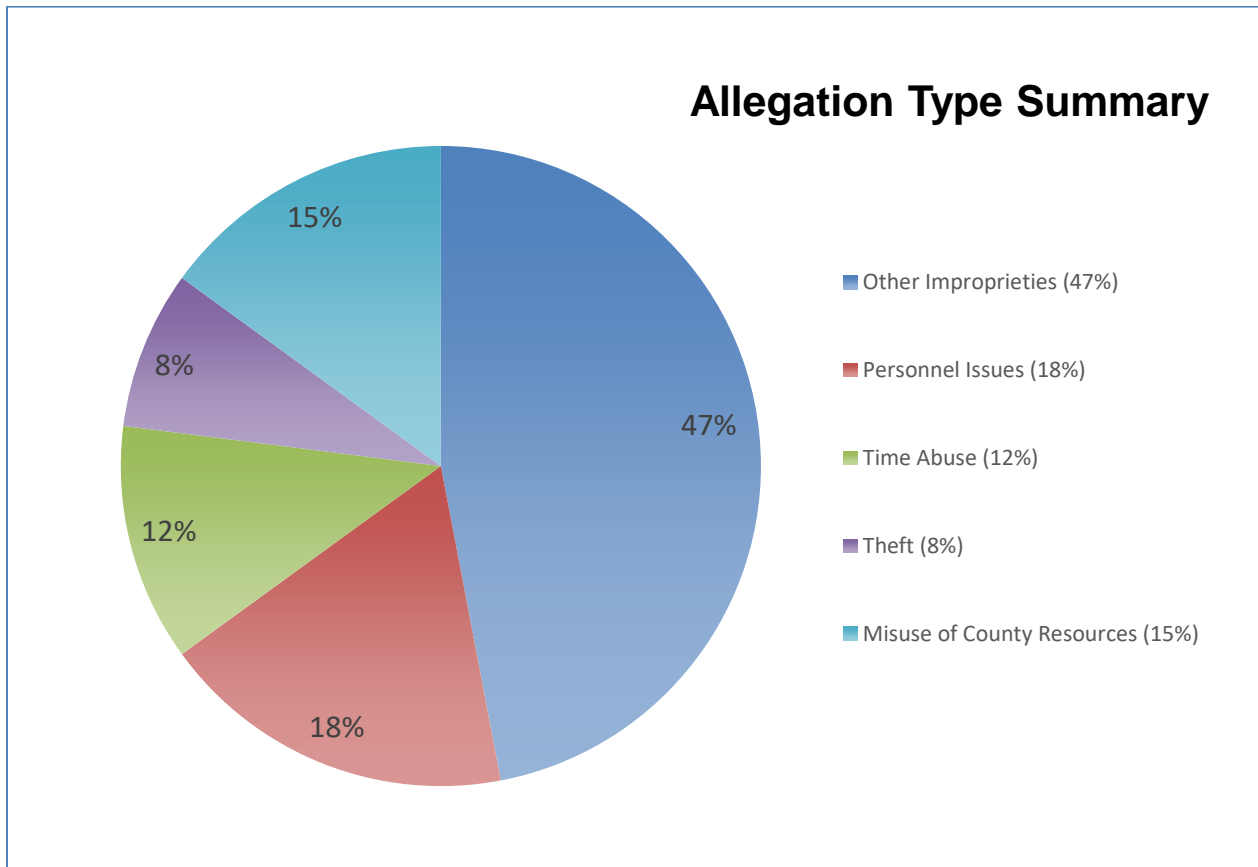
We also dispositioned **161** other cases (categorized as Not Investigated on Attachment I) involving issues that were either not jurisdictional to OCI (which were referred to other agencies, as appropriate), or did not include sufficiently detailed information that would allow a meaningful investigation to be conducted.

Case Turnover

- The number of cases **closed** during the period **increased by approximately 8.3%** over the prior 6-month period.
- Also, the number of cases **open more than one year decreased by approximately 4%** since the prior reporting period.

¹ This differs from the beginning caseload reported for the preceding reporting period as five instances of additional information were inadvertently counted as unique new cases in the prior period.

Allegation Types – Substantiated Cases



- The **Other Improprieties** category includes the following most commonly substantiated subcategories:
 - Violations of County or departmental policies and/or procedures (27%)
 - Falsification of County records (19%)
 - Misuse of confidential data or computer resources (13%)
 - Failure to perform job duties or services (8%)
- The **Personnel Issues** category includes the following substantiated subcategories:
 - Unprofessional behavior (56%)
 - Falsification of medical certifications (39%)
 - Misuse of benefits (5%)

Disciplinary and/or Corrective Actions

- Of the **100** cases substantiated during this reporting period, departments reported that they finalized and imposed **76** separate disciplinary actions. In addition, of the **61** cases closed in prior periods where discipline/corrective actions were resolved in the current period, **104** separate disciplinary actions were finalized. The number

of separate disciplinary actions may exceed the number of closed cases because some cases involve more than one subject and/or corrective/disciplinary action taken.

- For all actions finalized, **approximately 61%** resulted in **significant disciplinary actions**, including **discharges**, being imposed.²

ACTION(S) TAKEN	Current Period 01/01/22 to 06/30/22	Prior Periods	Total	%
Significant Disciplinary Action³				
Discharged	5	5	10	5%
Resigned/Retired/Resigned in Lieu of Discharge	23	16	39	24%
Notice in Personnel Folder (Do Not Rehire or other restrictions)	13	6	19	12%
Suspended - 15 to 30 Days	3	8	11	6%
Suspended - Less than 15 Days	7	24	31	16%
Subtotal	51	59	110	61%
Moderate Corrective Action⁴				
Counseled, Notice of Expectation, Procedures Changed/Reinforced, Training, Reprimanded/Warning, etc.	25	45	70	39%
TOTAL ACTIONS TAKEN:	76	104	180	100%

Prosecutions and Criminal Convictions

- The former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a County contractor was sentenced to two years of formal probation and ordered to pay (and paid in full) \$858,336 in restitution, after being convicted of grand theft and embezzlement in a scheme involving overbilling the County for On-the-Job Training services. Another manager from the agency was convicted of grand theft, was sentenced to two years of formal probation and 100 hours of community service, and ordered to pay (and paid in full) \$17,738 in restitution. A third manager was convicted of grand theft, was sentenced to six months of summary probation and 100 hours of community service, and ordered to pay (and paid in full) \$4,800 in restitution. In addition, CalPERS is reviewing the matter for potential retirement overpayments.

² Disciplinary actions reported as of the date of this report. All administrative actions may be appealed, and thus may later change as a result of civil service processes.

³ "Significant Disciplinary Actions" involve the loss of County pay (such as suspensions) or employment.

⁴ "Moderate Corrective Actions" do not result in the loss of County pay or employment.

- *A County employee received reimbursements from both the County and their insurance for \$2,128 in damage to their personal vehicle. The employee made false statements to investigators to conceal their misconduct and created falsified e-mail and bank documents to support those false statements. The employee was convicted of filing a fraudulent government claim and was sentenced to one year of probation, 200 hours community service, and anti-theft classes.*
- *A private individual was convicted of one count of burglary related to a counterfeit County warrant in the amount of \$1,850. The subject was sentenced to two years of formal probation with search and seizure conditions.*
- *Four (4) new cases were referred for prosecution by the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office resulting from investigative efforts by OCI, in partnership with other local law enforcement entities, in which we found evidence that the subjects committed crimes against the County.*
- *Twenty-nine (29) cases remain in progress with various prosecutorial agencies (County and local District Attorneys).*

**Open Cases Referred for Prosecution –
 District Attorney and Other Agencies**

Status	Number of Cases
Beginning Caseload	29
+ New Cases Referred	4
- Cases Adjudicated	
• Convicted/Sentenced	(3)
• Negotiated Disposition (Restitution & Community Service)	(1)
• Not Prosecuted	(0)
Ending Caseload	29

Index of Attachments

- Attachment I*** – Closed Case Summary: Substantiated, not substantiated, and cases not investigated, by department.
- Attachment II*** – Substantiated case narratives, by investigating department.
- Attachment III*** – Disciplinary/correction action(s) resolved and pending, by department and case number.
- Attachment IV*** – Active investigations open over one year, by department.

Board of Supervisors

January 25, 2023

Page 6

We thank Departmental management and staff for their assistance and cooperation during our Hotline case investigation and tracking process. Please call me if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Greg Hellmold at (213) 893-0243 or ghellmold@auditor.lacounty.gov.

AB:OV:RGC:GH:AMS:cm

Fraud Hotline Status ending 06/30/2022

Attachments

c: Fesia A. Davenport, Chief Executive Officer
Celia Zavala, Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors
Department Heads
Audit Committee
Countywide Communications



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FRAUD HOTLINE
CLOSED CASE SUMMARY
January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022**

	<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated *</i>	<i>Totals</i>	
<u>CASES INVESTIGATED BY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:</u>					
Office of County Investigations	5	12	102	119	26.0%
Administrative Services Division	1	1	0	2	0.4%
	6	13	102	121	26.4%

CASES REFERRED TO AND INVESTIGATED BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS:

Agricultural Commissioner / Weights & Measures	1	1	1	3	0.7%
Beaches and Harbors	1	0	0	1	0.2%
Child Support Services	1	3	0	4	0.9%
Children and Family Services	19	42	15	76	16.6%
County Counsel	0	1	0	1	0.2%
Fire	3	7	3	13	2.8%
Health Services	29	52	11	92	20.1%
Human Resources (Countywide)	2	12	1	15	3.3%
Internal Services	0	1	0	1	0.2%
LA County Library	0	1	0	1	0.2%
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority	0	2	4	6	1.3%
Mental Health	5	6	10	21	4.6%
Parks and Recreation	3	3	1	7	1.5%
Probation	1	7	0	8	1.7%
Public Health	4	3	8	15	3.3%
Public Social Services	24	35	2	61	13.3%
Public Works	0	4	3	7	1.5%
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk	1	3	0	4	0.9%
Sheriff	0	1	0	1	0.2%
Other Departments Total:	94	184	59	337	73.5%

Grand Total

100	21.8%	197	43.0%	161	35.2%	458	100%
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* Cases not investigated due to immateriality, the allegation was previously investigated, referred to outside agencies, or insufficient information was provided. In addition, 26 of 161 cases were referred to the County Equity Oversight Panel (CEOP) for investigation. CEOP does not report their findings back to Office of County Investigations and therefore should be contacted directly for further information.



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FRAUD HOTLINE**

SUMMARY OF SUBSTANTIATED CASES

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

SUBSTANTIATED CASES INVESTIGATED BY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

Department of Auditor-Controller (A-C)

Case Number: 202017092¹

An A-C employee falsified their timecard, misused County information technology (IT) resources for personal use, conducted personal business during County work hours, displayed inappropriate and discourteous behavior, and abused their supervisory authority. The A-C indicated that the employee was discharged.

Chief Executive Office (CEO)

Case Number: 202118136

A County vendor gave \$3,648 in gift cards and theme park/event tickets to a former CEO employee over a nine-month period when the employee oversaw County projects with the vendor, for which the vendor was paid \$72,810. The CEO indicated that the disciplinary action is pending for the vendor (the employee previously retired).

Countywide

Case Number: 202118413

An unknown individual deposited a counterfeit County warrant in the amount of \$14,000 into a Bank of America (BofA) bank account. We could not conclusively identify the perpetrator. There was no loss to the County as BofA's Positive Pay system prevented the warrant from being paid.

Los Angeles Office of Education (LACOE)

Case Number: 202118315

A private individual stole and deposited in another state a LACOE warrant issued to a County vendor in the amount of \$7,873. The perpetrator also deposited into their bank account 28 other non-County checks, totaling \$162,583, issued to other entities located out-of-state. OCI referred the individual and findings to the United States Postal Inspection Service and local law enforcement.

Department of Public Defender (PD)

Case Number: 202017385

Three current and one former PD employees misused County IT resources to organize and publicize a townhall meeting for a political candidate. PD indicated that disciplinary actions are pending for the three PD employees. The former employee transferred to the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office (LADA) and disciplinary/corrective action is pending.

¹ This case was investigated by the A-C Administrative Services Division.

Summary of Substantiated Cases

Department of Public Works (DPW)

Case Number: 201814463

A former DPW supervisor misused his position and exploited weaknesses in the County's Local Small Business Enterprise preference program to direct \$14.3 million in DPW procurement activity (i.e., construction equipment rentals and purchases of materials, supplies and equipment) to four County vendors, who operated largely fictitious businesses created to obtain DPW business and charge inflated prices to the County. The DPW supervisor and his wife, a former DPW manager, had personal relationships with the vendors and received monetary kickbacks and sporting event tickets totaling over \$1.3 million from them in exchange for the conflicted and inflated purchases. DPW indicated that the employees resigned, and corrective action/debarment is pending concerning three of the vendors. The owner of one of the County vendors was also a Department of Health Services (DHS) employee, and DHS indicated that the employee was discharged. The LADA filed charges against the DPW supervisor, the former DHS employee, and two of the business owners.

TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED CASES INVESTIGATED BY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: 6

Summary of Substantiated Cases

CASES REFERRED TO AND SUBSTANTIATED BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	1	1	3

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Type(s)	No.
Theft	1
Total:	1

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

None

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	0
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Department of Beaches and Harbors (Beaches)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	0	0	1

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Type(s)	No.
Other improprieties	1
Total:	1

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202118260 – Other improprieties

An employee of a Beaches parking contractor improperly issued a parking receipt to a Beaches “mystery customer” for 1 cent although the “customer” paid \$7 for parking. Review by Beaches revealed other instances of receipts issued for less than the fee actually collected by the parking contractor employee, which reduced the amount of collections remitted. Beaches indicated that the contractor released the employee, and the Department assessed the company \$150 in liquidated damages.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	0
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Child Support Services Department

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	3	0	4

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Type(s)	No.
Misuse of County Resources	1
Total:	1

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

None

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	0
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
19	42	15	76

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Type(s)	No.
Other Improprieties	8
Personnel Issues	7
Time Abuse	4
Total:	19

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202117708 – Other Improprieties

A DCFS employee failed to adhere to their work schedule and falsified their time records. The employee also used their assigned County computer and e-mail account for personal business and failed to report their outside employment, which they conducted during County work hours. Additionally, the employee's supervisor failed to provide proper oversight over the employee's work performance. DCFS indicated disciplinary actions are pending for the supervisor and the employee.

Case Number: 202118015 – Personnel Issues

A DCFS employee demonstrated a pattern of behaving in an inappropriate and unprofessional manner (i.e., yelling, being insubordinate and/or confrontational, etc.), when interacting with DCFS clients and employees as well as external professionals. The employee also violated DCFS policy related to performing their duties. DCFS indicated that disciplinary action is pending.

Case Number: 202118176 – Personnel Issues

A DCFS employee displayed behavior unbecoming of a County employee by engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a minor client, including kissing the client and exchanging inappropriate text messages. The employee also refused to cooperate with investigators during the administrative investigation. DCFS indicated that the employee was arrested and charged with one misdemeanor count of child molestation. DCFS also indicated the employee resigned and a Top of File² notice was placed in their personnel folder.

² A Top of File memo documents information relevant to the employee's work history (i.e., including misconduct that occurred prior to the employee's resignation). The memo is placed at the top of the employee's personnel file so that anyone who reviews the file will be immediately aware of the information contained in the memo.

Summary of Substantiated Cases

DCFS (continued)

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries (continued)

Case Number: 202118317 – Time Abuse

A DCFS employee abused their work schedule (i.e., arrived to work late and took extended lunch breaks) and failed to properly account for variances on their timecards. DCFS indicated that the employee received a 15-day suspension without pay.

Case Number: 202118362 – Time Abuse

A DCFS employee was paid for 17 eight-hour workdays for which they did not work their full shift. DCFS indicated that the employee received a 15-day suspension without pay and timecard corrections are pending.

Case Number: 202218649 – Other Improprieties

A DCFS employee engaged in a personal relationship with a client, inappropriately communicated with the client, failed to properly record a contact in the client's case record, and failed to report to management that they accepted a gift from the client. The employee also continued to contact the client concerning the investigation after being admonished not to do so. DCFS indicated that disciplinary action will be imposed upon the employee's return from an extended leave of absence.

Case Number: 202218750 – Personnel Issues

A DCFS employee failed to perform their job duties and could not provide evidence they completed any work for two full work shifts. DCFS indicated that the employee retired, and a Top of File notice was placed in their personnel folder.

Case Number: Various – Computer Misuse (Confidential data)

DCFS investigated two cases involving two different employees who improperly accessed the Child Welfare System/Case Management System to view DCFS clients' personal and confidential information without authorization or a legitimate County business need. DCFS indicated that one employee was issued a Written Reprimand and disciplinary action is pending concerning the other employee.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	0
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Fire Department (Fire)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
3	7	3	13

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Types	No.
Personnel Issues	2
Other Improprieties	1
Total:	3

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202017327 – Personnel Issues

A Fire employee behaved in an unprofessional manner toward a member of the public and failed to make a timely report to his supervisor that law enforcement was called to the scene. Fire indicated that the employee received a 10-day suspension without pay.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	16
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

DHS

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
30 ³	52	11	93

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Types	No.
Other Improprieties	16
Time Abuse	7
Personnel Issues	5
Computer Misuse (Confidential Data)	1
Misuse of County Resources	1
Total:	30

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 201915127 – Other Improprieties

A DHS manager inappropriately used her County position and system access to perform patient financial services eligibility functions for her family member to verify medical coverage eligibility. Two other DHS employees (another manager and her subordinate from the Consolidated Business Office) inappropriately assisted the manager in editing another family member's billing account to prevent DHS from actively pursuing collections on the amounts due for services rendered. DHS indicated that disciplinary actions are pending for the two managers and the employee, and the account balance was subsequently paid in full.

Case Number: 201915788 – Other Improprieties

Two DHS employees violated State law when they ordered non-licensed, non-qualified personnel to perform competency assessments for registered nurses and physicians at Harbor/UCLA Medical Center. DHS implemented the recommendations made by the two regulatory agencies (College of American Pathologists and CA Department of Public Health). DHS indicated that both employees retired from County service and facility staff was reminded of the proper protocols for competency assessments.

Case Number: 202016820 – Other Improprieties

A DHS employee did not adhere to her regular work schedule and failed to record the variances on her timecards. The employee also failed to comply with management directives on proper time coding and attendance expectations. Further, the employee failed to report her outside employment, and her marriage to another DHS employee as required by DHS policies. DHS indicated that disciplinary action is pending.

³ One substantiated case was investigated by the Department of Human Resources (DHR).

Summary of Substantiated Cases

DHS (continued)

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries (continued)

Case Number: 202017015 – Other Improprieties

A DHS manager did not adhere to his work schedule and failed to report actual hours worked on his timecards. The manager also conducted outside employment activities during County work hours, exceeded the maximum number of allowable hours per month for outside employment, and failed to report his volunteer work. DHS indicated that the manager was counseled and ordered to participate in mandatory retraining.

Case Number: 202117591 – Other Improprieties

A DHS employee submitted a falsified medical certificate to excuse her absence over an approximate one-month period. DHS indicated the employee resigned in lieu of discharge.

Case Number: 202118248 – Computer Misuse (Confidential Data)

A DHS employee participated in the selection process for a position for which they were also listed as an eligible candidate. As a result, the employee had access to confidential exam-related information which created an unfair advantage over the other candidates. In addition, the supervisor was aware that the employee was a candidate on the eligible list when they asked the employee to assist with scheduling interviews for the position. DHS indicated that the supervisor was reminded of policy, and disciplinary and/or corrective action is pending for the employee.

Case Number: Various – Personnel Issues

DHS investigated four cases involving four different employees who submitted fraudulent COVID-19 vaccination cards to the Department. For one of these cases, the employee also submitted a falsified letter from the medical facility where they claimed they received the vaccinations. DHS indicated that disciplinary actions are pending for all four employees.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	47
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Department of Mental Health (DMH)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
5	6	10	21

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Types	No.
Other Improprieties	3
Misuse of County Resources	2
Total:	5

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202017239 – Other Improprieties

Two DMH employees inappropriately used their assigned LexisNexis access to conduct searches on individuals (employees and/or relatives) without a business need. Further, a DMH manager provided false information in response to a LexisNexis audit. This manager and a second manager failed to suspend the two employees' access to LexisNexis while the investigation was ongoing. DMH indicated that disciplinary actions are pending for the involved managers and employees.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	88
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
3	3	1	7

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Type(s)	No.
Other improprieties	2
Misuse of County Resources	1
Total:	3

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202016928 and 202118352 – Other Improprieties

A Parks manager abused their authority by requesting a subordinate employee enroll the manager's child in a County program although the child did not meet program eligibility requirements. The manager was also insubordinate and kept their child in the program after their supervisor instructed them to disenroll. The manager also conducted personal business while on duty (e.g., to drop off/pick up their child from the program) and requested and received reimbursement for driving a total of 358 miles for County business from September 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, when the trips were actually for personal errands. The falsified mileage claims resulted in overpayments totaling \$197. Parks indicated the manager resigned from County service before they identified the improper reimbursement and could withhold it from her final pay. Parks placed a Do Not Rehire notice in the manager's personnel folder.

Case Number: 202118247 – Misuse of County Resources

A Parks employee drove at least one County van without authorization, and to commute between home and work over a three-month period while the California Department of Motor Vehicles prohibited him from driving and Parks revoked his driving privileges at work. The employee also used his assigned County gas card on at least five occasions during this period, and he explained that he used it to fuel two County vans. Parks indicated that they issued a notice of intent to suspend the employee for 15 days. Since Parks' investigation report provides evidence that crimes were committed, OCI referred this matter to LADA for prosecution.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	0
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Probation Department

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	7	0	8

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Types	No.
Other Improprieties	1
Total:	1

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	2
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Department of Public Health (DPH)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
4	3	8	15

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Types	No.
Other Improprieties	3
Theft	1
Total:	4

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202118181 – Other Improprieties

A DPH employee failed to conduct routine site inspections at a coin laundry facility, miscoded their time records, and falsified inspection reports and mileage claims on several occasions. DPH indicated that the employee retired prior to discipline being imposed.

Case Number: 202218588 – Other Improprieties

A DPH employee falsified site inspection reports on at least two occasions (i.e., for a restaurant and a spa) and submitted inaccurate time records for the inspections. DPH indicated that the employee resigned from County service.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	0
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Department of Public Social Services (DPSS)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
24	35	2	61

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Types	No.
Other Improprieties	10
Computer Misuse (Confidential Data)	6
Misuse of County Resources	3
Personnel Issues	3
Theft	1
Time Abuse	1
Total:	24

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202117751 – Other Improprieties

A DPSS employee failed to report her County earnings when she applied for CalFresh benefits during a period when she was on leave, resulting in an overpayment of \$4,954. The employee also submitted fraudulent medical certifications during a period she was on a separate leave. DPSS indicated that the employee was discharged, and the findings were referred to the LADA for prosecution.

Case Number: 202118367 – Misuse of County Resources

A DPSS employee submitted seven falsified medical certifications to excuse their absences from work. The employee also improperly received a client's personal and confidential information via text on their personal cell phone. DPSS indicated that the employee resigned prior to the conclusion of the investigation, and a Top of File notice was placed in the employee's personnel folder.

Case Number: 202218597 – Time Abuse

A DPSS employee failed to work their full overtime shifts on 18 occasions, did not complete work assignments, and abused their overtime hours. DPSS indicated that the employee resigned, and a Top of File notice was placed in the employee's personnel folder.

Case Number: 202218733 – Other Improprieties

A DPSS employee submitted nine fraudulent medical certifications to excuse his absences from work, during which the employee engaged in outside employment. DPSS indicated that the employee resigned, and a Top of File notice was placed in the employee's personnel folder.

Case Number: 202218752 – Personnel Issues

A DPSS employee improperly used reference materials during a structured video interview for a promotional exam. DPSS indicated that the employee received a 15-day suspension without pay.

Summary of Substantiated Cases

DPSS (continued)

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries (continued)

Case Number: Various – Computer Misuse (Confidential data)

DPSS investigated nine cases involving nine different employees who improperly accessed the California Statewide Automated Welfare System to view personal and confidential information in participants' case records without authorization or a legitimate County business need. In three of these cases, the employees also failed to report that the participants were relatives and/or failed to report that the participants lived with them while they were receiving aid. DPSS indicated that three employees received a 10-day suspension without pay, and disciplinary action is pending for the other six employees.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	3
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Summary of Substantiated Cases

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC)

Investigative Results:

<i>Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Substantiated</i>	<i>Not Investigated</i>	<i>Total</i>
2 ⁴	3	0	5

Substantiated Cases:

Primary Allegation Types	No.
Other Improprieties	1
Personnel Issues	1
Total:	2

High Risk / Impact Case Summaries

Case Number: 202016728 – Personnel Issues

A RR/CC employee exhibited a pattern of unprofessional, disrespectful, and aggressive behavior toward co-workers in the workplace, including shouting at, and using profanity toward others. RR/CC indicated that disciplinary action is pending.

Case Number: 202118341 – Other Improprieties

A RR/CC employee attempted to issue a total of \$2,140 in payments to three non-County Election Workers without authorization. The employee also accessed payment records and County equipment without authorization, performed duties other than those assigned without authorization, falsified time records, and engaged in a conflict of interest. RR/CC indicated that the employee received a 30-day suspension without pay. Since RR/CC's investigation report provides evidence that a crime was committed, OCI referred this matter to LADA for prosecution.

Fraud Hotline Cases Open Over One Year:	0
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⁴ One substantiated case was investigated by DHR.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY FRAUD HOTLINE
Resolved and Pending Disciplinary/Corrective Actions
From Previous Semi-Annual Reports
As of January 24, 2023

Department	Resolved Cases - Discipline/Corrective Action Taken	Pending Cases - Discipline/Corrective Action	Number of Days Outstanding (1)
Animal Care and Control	1	0	
	202118139 (2)		
Assessor	3	0	
	201814157		
	201916283		
	202016751 (2)		
Children and Family Services	19	7	
	201916207	201915177	1000
	201916541	201915880 (3)	1050
	202017360	202016998	845
	202017457	202017078 (3)	820
	202017478	202017293 (2)	456
	202017495	202017497	687
	202117618	202118201	412
	202117680		
	202117809		
	202117918		
	202117974		
	202117977		
	202118118		
	202118121		
	202118135		
	202118175		
	202118116		
	202118228		
	202118246		
Child Support Services	1	0	
	202017121		
County Counsel	0	1	
		201915289	492
Health Services	10	17	
	201915504	201915180 (3)	952
	201916257	201915398	950
	201916420	201915611	952
	201916479	201915803	581
	202016884	201915853	756
	202017011	201915896 (3)	957
	202118083	201915993	763
	201916487	201916091	575
	202016984	201916204 (3)	947
	202017100	201916286	869
		201916293	581

(1) Calculated from date department issued investigation report. Per protocols issued by the Department of Human Resources (DHR), each department's management is responsible for prioritizing outstanding cases based on the level of discipline. Office of County Investigations (OCI) is not responsible for evaluating the cause or reasonableness of the delays. OCI's role is to follow up with departments for a status of pending discipline for inclusion in this report.

(2) Case investigated by OCI.

(3) Discipline is pending due to the employee(s)' leave of absence. DHR has issued protocols to assist departments with managing the disciplinary process with employees on leave. DHR has also recommended that each department consult with DHR and County Counsel on cases that involve discipline and employee leaves to determine the appropriate administrative actions to resolve such cases timely.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY FRAUD HOTLINE
Resolved and Pending Disciplinary/Corrective Actions
From Previous Semi-Annual Reports
As of January 24, 2023

Department	Resolved Cases - Discipline/Corrective Action Taken	Pending Cases - Discipline/Corrective Action	Number of Days Outstanding (1)
Health Services (continued)			
		201916527	577
		202016772	399
		202017043	581
		202017109 (3)	575
		202017332	401
		202117815	401
Internal Services	0	1	
		202016990 (2)	457
Mental Health	8	5	
	201713728	201713708	1149
	201713732	201814220	532
	201916304	201814963	580
	201916419	201915645	1144
	202016578	202017531	609
	202017366		
	201814403		
	201814964		
Military and Veterans Affairs	0	1	
		201915047 (2)	854
Parks	3	2	
	201713312	201713594	702
	201915793	201916400	783
	201916102 (4)		
Probation	2	0	
	201915926		
	202017227		
Public Social Services	13	2	
	201915699	201916512	663
	202016934	202118068 (3)	463
	202017269		
	202017433		
	202117845		
	202117934		
	202118092		
	202118105		
	202118189		

(1) Calculated from date department issued investigation report. Per protocols issued by DHR, each department's management is responsible for prioritizing outstanding cases based on the level of discipline. OCI is not responsible for evaluating the cause or reasonableness of the delays. OCI's role is to follow up with departments for a status of pending discipline for inclusion in this report.

(2) Case Investigated by OCI.

(3) Discipline is pending due to the employee(s)' leave of absence. DHR has issued protocols to assist departments with managing the disciplinary process with employees on leave. DHR has also recommended that each department consult with DHR and County Counsel on cases that involve discipline and employee leaves to determine the appropriate administrative actions to resolve such cases timely.

(4) Case investigated by DHR (Countywide).



LOS ANGELES COUNTY FRAUD HOTLINE
Resolved and Pending Disciplinary/Corrective Actions
From Previous Semi-Annual Reports
As of January 24, 2023

Department	Resolved Cases - Discipline/Corrective Action Taken	Pending Cases - Discipline/Corrective Action	Number of Days Outstanding (1)
Public Social Services (continued)			
	202118298		
	202118361		
	202118403		
	201915699		
Public Works	1	0	
	202017384		
Workforce Development, Aging, and Community Services (Aging and Disabilities) (5)	0	2	
		201915470 (2)	1000
		201915964	1135
Departments Total:	61	38	

(1) Calculated from date department issued investigation report. Per protocols issued by DHR, each department's management is responsible for prioritizing outstanding cases based on the level of discipline. OCI is not responsible for evaluating the cause or reasonableness of the delays. OCI's role is to follow up with departments for a status of pending discipline for inclusion in this report.

(2) Case investigated by OCI.

(3) Not used on page 3.

(4) Not used on page 3.

(5) As of July 1, 2022, the involved employees work for the Aging and Disabilities Department (formerly part of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services).



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY FRAUD HOTLINE
Cases Assigned for Investigation
Open Over One Year, By Department
As of June 30, 2022**

Department	Cases ⁽¹⁾
Animal Care and Control	3
Chief Executive Office	6
County Counsel	1
Fire	16
Health Services	47
Human Resources (Countywide)	8
Internal Services	30
LA County Library	1
Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association	11
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority	4
Medical Examiner	1
Mental Health	91
Military and Veterans Affairs	3
Museum of Art	1
Probation	3
Public Defender	5
Public Social Services	3
Sheriff	12
Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services ⁽²⁾	23

Total Number of Cases Outstanding Over One Year 269

(1) These represent cases referred to County departments by the Office of County Investigations as the nature of the allegations are such that they more appropriately reviewed by the department.

(2) As of July 1, 2022, this Department has been dissolved and these cases will be represented under the Aging and Disabilities Department, Department of Economic Opportunity, or Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, as appropriate, depending on the involved employees and/or vendors in the allegations.