



# Richmond Office of the City Auditor

Office of the Inspector General

*Fighting government waste, fraud and abuse*

---

June 28, 2018

Mrs. Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer  
City of Richmond

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has completed an investigation within the Department of Public Utilities (DPU), as it relates to the abuse of time. This report, presents the results of the investigation.

## **Legal & City Policy Requirements:**

1. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, §15.2-2511.2, the City Auditor is required to investigate all allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse.
2. City Code section 2-231 requires the Office of the Inspector General to conduct investigations of alleged wrongdoing.

## **Allegation:**

The complaint alleged two City of Richmond employees were in their City vehicles parked at the Wawa on West Broad Street in Henrico County from 7:15am to 9:00am Monday through Thursday. This was alleged to be going on since April 2018.

## **Findings:**

The investigators conducted surveillance at the Wawa on West Broad Street in Henrico County for seven days between June 6, 2018 and June 19, 2018. During the surveillance period the investigators identified two City of Richmond vehicles, both white Ford Explorers. The investigators identified the operators of the vehicles as Construction Service Technicians assigned to DPU Richmond Gas Works. Their work schedule is Monday through Friday 7:30AM – 4:00PM. Their assignment is to locate, mark, and map gas lines.

The table below shows times and dates these City vehicles and employees were observed at the Wawa in Henrico County:

Subject 1					Subject 2			
Day	Date	Time arrived	Time left	Duration	Date	Time arrived	Time left	Duration
1	6/6/2018	8:01 AM	8:36 AM	35 Min	6/6/2018			
2	6/7/2018	8:05 AM	8:57 AM	52 Min	6/7/2018	8:05 AM	8:57 AM	52 Min
3	6/8/2018	7:53 AM	9:03 AM	70 Min	6/8/2018	7:57 AM	9:03 AM	66 Min
4	6/11/2018	8:01 AM	9:07 AM	66 Min	6/11/2018	7:55 AM	9:07 AM	72 Min
5	6/12/2018	8:05 AM	9:01 AM	56 Min	6/12/2018	7:54 AM	9:01 AM	67 Min
6	6/13/2018	8:01 AM	9:01 AM	60 Min	6/13/2018	8:01 AM	9:01 AM	60 Min
7	6/19/2018	8:05 AM	8:54 AM	49 Min	6/19/2018	7:52 AM	8:54 AM	62 Min
	<b>TOTAL</b>			6 Hrs. 28 Min	<b>TOTAL</b>			6 Hrs. 19 Min

The investigators interviewed both Construction Service Technicians. Subject 1 admitted to being at the Wawa in Henrico County and spending about an hour at the location chatting, discussing work and drinking their coffee. The investigators questioned the assertion of discussing work for an hour every day considering Subject 1 would stay at the Wawa even when Subject 2 was not there. Subject 1 indicated that he did not think it was an issue as they were entitled to a 15 minute break even though they stayed longer. Subject 1 also stated they have been stopping at Wawa since they started working for their current supervisor. They indicated that they not only stop at this particular Wawa but they also stop at other Wawas in the areas in which they are working. Subject 1 said this has been going on for about a year or two but did not pinpoint the time.

When interviewed, Subject 2 originally stated they would only stop at the Wawa to get coffee and then leave after 10 to 15 minutes. Subsequently, Subject 2 admitted to staying at the location for an hour along with Subject 1. Subject 2 stated they would drink coffee and eat their sandwiches during this time. Later in the interview Subject 2 added that they would talk about the job and which street each subject would take. Subject 2 added that they have been going to this Wawa since March or April of this year. Subject 2 spoke about 15 minute breaks and sometimes missing lunch, but with further questioning Subject 2 admitted to taking lunch.

**Conclusion:**

Based on the findings, the OIG concludes that the allegation is substantiated. The OIG recommends appropriate disciplinary actions be taken in regards to this matter in consultation with Human Resources.

If you have any questions, please contact me at extension 5616.

Sincerely,

*Louis G. Lassiter*

Louis Lassiter, CPA  
City Auditor/Inspector General

cc: Robert Steidel, DCAO Operations  
Calvin Farr, Director, DPU  
Honorable City Council Members  
City Audit Committee