



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Inspector General

DATE 2/4/2026

Odie Donald II
Chief Administrative Officer
City of Richmond

Code of Virginia §15.2-2511.2- Authorization to perform investigative duties, the Inspector General is required to investigate all allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse. City of Richmond Code §2-214 authorizes the Office of the Inspector General to conduct criminal, civil, and administrative investigations related to the municipal affairs of the city.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has completed an investigation within the Department of Public Utilities (DPU). This report presents the results of the investigation.

Case Origin:

This administrative investigation is predicated from a suspected violation of City of Richmond Administrative Regulation 1.1 – Code of Ethics, the city prohibits an employee from having “any direct or indirect financial interest, professional activity, or incur any obligation of any nature which conflicts or would appear to conflict with the fair, impartial and objective performance of officially assigned duties and responsibilities.”.

Estimated loss to the city is \$0.00.

Investigative Facts:

On September 12th, 2025, a member of the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) reported that his office received a complaint from a City of Richmond (COR) resident, concerning a DPU employee, withdrawing funds from the personal *Connects Federal Credit Union* account belonging to a former city of Richmond Utilities Customer who had passed away.

OIG interviewed the complainant who indicated her mother had passed away circa March 2024 due to health reasons. Subsequent to her death, the complainant uncovered that her mother’s bank account had the remaining funds withdrawn by the COR employee in early April. The complainant further provided a copy of a *Commonwealth of Virginia, Inventory for Decedent’s Estate (Form CC-1670); Court File No. 24-226(6)*, that identified the COR employee as a *Joint Account Holder*.

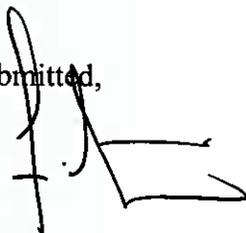
OIG subsequently subpoenaed records from Connects Federal Credit Union. These records included a *Loan liner Account Change Card* listing the COR employee as a Joint Owner. The COR employee's biographical information, residential address and signature were also disclosed on the form. The form also indicated that the account had *Joint Ownership with Rights of Survivorship*, specifying that ownership transferred to the surviving party upon the death of an account holder.

Financial statements from April confirmed the COR employee as the remaining Joint Owner and that multiple withdrawals were made from either the Vacation Club, Prime Share and Value Checking accounts on 4/5/25 and/or 4/9/25. In addition, a Visa Platinum Credit Card payment was made on 4/3/25.

Conclusion:

Based on the findings, the Office of Inspector General concludes that this investigation is **substantiated** for the violation of the Richmond Administrative Regulation 1.1 – Code of Ethics. As a result of the OIG investigation uncovering the financial gain from the COR employee, they are no longer employed with the City of Richmond. This case highlights the importance of providing future training within DPU on ethics, financial responsibility, and conflict of interest standards. The OIG recommends offering instructional support, including presentation on this investigation and an overview of “Larry’s Law” (Virginia Senior Safe Act, which focuses on preventing the financial exploitation of elderly individuals. The total confirmed financial loss to the City of Richmond from this incident **\$0.00**.

Submitted,



Foster Curtiss
Inspector General

CC: Honorable Members of City Council
Bobby Benson, Director of Public Utilities