



Richmond Office of the City Auditor

Office of the Inspector General

Fighting government waste, fraud and abuse

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Richmond City Auditor/Inspector General

July 8, 2016

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 Social Services, as it relates to the abuse of authority. This report, presents the results of the investigation.

Legal & City Policy Requirements:

1. Code of Virginia, §15.2-2511.2, the City Auditor is required to investigate all allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse. Also, City Code §2-214 requires the Office of the Inspector General to conduct investigations of alleged wrongdoing.
2. VA. Code §18.2-152.5. Computer invasion of privacy; penalties.
 - A) A person is guilty of the crime of computer invasion of privacy when he uses a computer or computer network and intentionally examines without authority any employment, salary, credit or any other financial or identifying information.

Allegation:

The complaint alleged that a Richmond Department of Social Services (RDSS) employee abused their authority by accessing the Virginia Department of Social Services' (VDSS) automated system for personal gain.

Findings:

The investigator was able to identify the employee as a RDSS Benefits Program Specialist assigned to the Medicaid Unit. The employee had authorization to access VADSS system by virtue of their employment with RDSS. This authority is provided to a limited number of employees only for performing their official duties.

The investigator contacted the Virginia Department of Social Services (VADSS) Information Technology and requested all information the subject employee requested through the State computer system. The VADSS informed the investigator that the subject employee had accessed Department of Motor Vehicles, Virginia Employment Commission, and other sites that enabled the employee to access personal information on an individual known to the subject without their permission.

During an interview, the subject employee denied the allegation at first, but later admitted to accessing the system and inquiring information on the known individual. The subject did not need to obtain any information on the known individual for work related purposes, but used the information for personal gain. The employee indicated that the inquiry was made to determine if the known individual was alive. However, documents obtained by the investigator indicated that subject employee was in communication with the known individual and knew that the known individual was in fact alive. Prior to being interviewed, the subject employee had submitted their resignation, effective June 15, 2016.

Conclusion:

Based on the findings, the OIG concludes that the allegation is substantiated. This case is being referred to the Commonwealth Attorney's Office for further review.

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

Sincerely,

Umesh Dalal

Umesh Dalal, CPA, CIA, CIG
City Auditor/Inspector General

cc: City Council Members
City Audit Committee
Ms. Deborah Gardner – DCAO for Human Services
Ms. Shunda Giles – Director of Social Services