



Solano County Auditor-Controller's Whistleblower Program July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

Significant Issues Update

The County Auditor-Controller's Internal Audit Division (Division) administers the County's Whistleblower Program (Program). The Program includes a special hotline number (866) 384-TIPS and a website for submission of complaints. The complaints received were reviewed by the Division in cooperation with Appointed and Elected Department Heads and the County Administrator as deemed appropriate.

From July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, the Division received 42 complaints of perceived incidence of fraud, waste, and abuse, or violations of County policy or law through the Program. Of the 42 complaints, 37 were determined not to be Program matters because the complaint failed to provide sufficient information, or the allegation was not within the scope of the Program. As a result, there were 5 new cases reviewed this period.

In addition to the five (5) new cases, there were three (3) complaints open from our last report that are currently under review.

The eight (8) Program complaints reviewed are summarized by category as follows:

- 5 Violations of law and/or County policy
- 2 Welfare fraud
- 1 Other

Of the eight (8) complaints:

- 4 Were substantiated and found to have merit
- 4 Are open with active investigation

Details about the four (4) complaints found to have merit are as follows:

<i>Complaint Allegation(s)</i>	<i>Resolution</i>
Total of nine complaints of alleged welfare fraud were referred to H&SS Special Investigations Bureau (SIB) for investigation.	The complaints were investigated by SIB and two complaints were found to have merit.

<i>Complaint Allegation(s)</i>	<i>Resolution</i>
One complaint of unreasonable working conditions during a heat wave and malfunctioning heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC).	The Department coordinated alternate work site locations for the remainder of the workday and repairs were made to the HVAC system
One complaint alleged building code violations at a work site.	The Department reviewed the complaint and made necessary updates.

The Whistleblower Program continues to serve as a successful tool to aide in the identification of County-related matters of potential fraud, waste, and abuse. The Program looks at and addresses controls and promotes accountability and oversight throughout the County by providing a process for employees and county citizens to report perceived incidence of fraud, waste, and abuse in policy and practice.

For questions, please contact Matthew Fong, Deputy Auditor-Controller, at (707) 784-3057.