



Solano County Auditor-Controller's Whistleblower Program January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020

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 Audit Division in cooperation with Appointed and Elected Department Heads and the County Administrator as deemed appropriate.

From January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, the Division received 47 complaints of perceived incidence of fraud, waste, and abuse, or violations of County policy or law through the Whistleblower Program. Of the 51 complaints, 30 were determined not to be County Whistleblower matters because the complaint failed to provide sufficient information, or the allegation was not within the scope of the County's Whistleblower Program (e.g. COVID rules violations committed by local establishments). As a result, there were 19 cases reviewed this period.

In addition to the 21 new complaints, there were 4 complaints from our last report still under review. This brought the total caseload to 25.

The 25 WB complaints reviewed are summarized by category as follows:

- 6 Violations of law and/or County policy
- 12 Welfare fraud
- 4 Management Conduct
- 1 Waste of County Funds
- 2 Other

Of the 25 complaints:

- 2 Were substantiated and found to have merit
- 17 Were determined not have merit
- 6 Were closed due to insufficient information

Details about the 2 complaints found to have merit are as follows:

<i>Complaint Allegation(s)</i>	<i>Resolution</i>
11 complaints of alleged welfare fraud were referred to H&SS Special Investigations Bureau (SIB) for investigation.	The complaints were investigated by SIB. Two complaints were found to have merit while seven complaints were found to not have merit.

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 other County citizens to report perceived incidence of fraud, waste, and abuse in policy and practice.

For questions, please contact Phyllis Taynton, Auditor-Controller, at (707) 784-6288.