



COUNTY OF VENTURA

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

Employee Fraud Hotline Report *Update #13* For the Period July through December 2007

Three ways to contact the Hotline:

Call:
(805) 644-6019



Write:
Employee Fraud Hotline
Ventura County Auditor-Controller
Administration Building L#1540
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

E-Mail*:
Fraud.Hotline@ventura.org
* E-mail is not confidential.

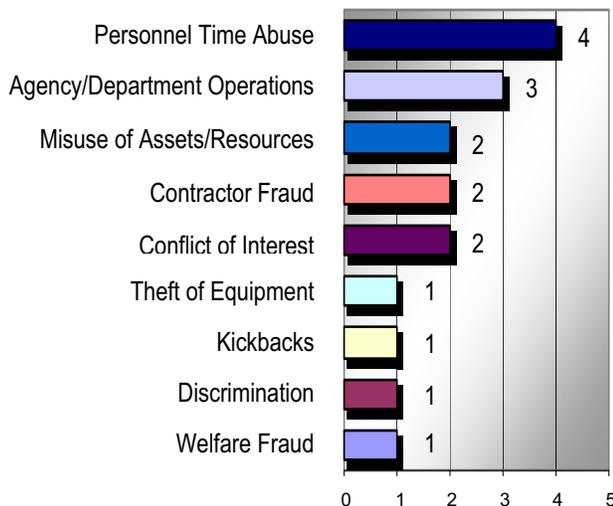
I am pleased to present the Semi-Annual Report of the Employee Fraud Hotline for the period July through December 2007. The Employee Fraud Hotline was established as an avenue to report fraud, waste, and abuse occurring at the County of Ventura. I encourage employees to resolve concerns through their normal administrative channels whenever possible. However, the Employee Fraud Hotline provides an alternative reporting mechanism to ensure that concerns about possible wrongdoing in our County government are properly addressed. This report reflects information provided to the Board of Supervisors on January 29, 2008.

Christine L. Cohen
Auditor-Controller

Hotline Activity at a Glance . . . During July through December 2007, the Employee Fraud Hotline received 21 new complaints of improper governmental activities, of which we pursued 17 (81%). Three issues were not pursued because the callers were redirected to other hotlines, and one issue was closed due to insufficient information.

The 17 new complaints that we pursued mainly involved personnel time abuse issues:

Types and Number of New Hotline Issues Pursued



As of December 31, 2007, most of the 21 new issues have been resolved / closed:



Most of the new complaints were made by phone:

Contact Method

Phone.....	76%
In Person.....	14%
Regular Mail.....	10%

For most of the 21 new complaints, the complainants chose to remain anonymous:

Complainant Anonymity

Anonymous.....	76%
Not Anonymous.....	24%

During July through December 2007, we resolved/closed a total of 14 Hotline issues out of the 23 total complaints that were under review/open (21 new complaints and 2 complaints from prior periods):

Summary Outcomes of 14 Hotline Issues Resolved/Closed during July-December 2007

Substantiated (see description below).....	1
Unsubstantiated.....	9
Redirected to other hotlines.....	3
Insufficient information.....	1

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINT

Contractor Payroll. A County contractor did not pay employee wages in a timely manner for one pay period because of transitioning payroll and billing systems. Corrective action was implemented to ensure that all employees were subsequently paid and to prevent future occurrences.