



OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016

ELISSA RHEE-LEE

INSPECTOR GENERAL

FEBRUARY 01, 2017



February 01, 2017

Chairman Hooker and the Members of the Finance/Audit Committee:

Enclosed for your review, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) submits the 2016 Annual Report pursuant to the *OIG Charter*. This Annual Report contains summaries of significant investigations (criminal and administrative), audits, advisories, data analytics, and fraud awareness trainings, as well as significant OIG operational matters in 2016.

The OIG received 742 complaints in 2016. In 2015, the OIG received 690 complaints. This is an increase of 7.3%. We initiated 57 investigations and closed 45 investigations. We declined 200 complaints for a variety of reasons as explained in this report. We provided support for 229 investigative matters to CHA internal departments such as the HCV and Public Housing departments. In 2015, we provided support for 21 investigative matters. This is an increase of 166.4 %. Additionally, the OIG issued 7 Advisories in 2016 based upon data analysis, audits, and investigations.

As you know, as the Inspector General, it is my responsibility to effectively manage the Office of the Inspector General so that we can successfully fulfill the OIG's mission of providing an independent oversight of CHA programs in order to prevent, identify, expose and eliminate waste, misconduct, fraud and abuse of public funds. The CHA OIG currently has 8 FTE's including my position as the Inspector General.

The OIG added one FTE Information Analyst position. The OIG's analysts (Operations Analyst and Information Analyst) primary goal is to perform data analysis of CHA data to identify trends, patterns and red flags that may indicate a fraud environment or an actual fraud necessitating an OIG investigation. The CHA OIG has the fewest number of FTE's compared to sister agencies, such as the City of Chicago, Chicago Public Schools, City Colleges, Cook County, etc. Having said that, I firmly believe we have provided and continue to provide high quality work in our investigations, audits, investigative support, advisories and in our fraud awareness trainings.

The Office of the Inspector General will continue to review, inspect, audit and investigate all relevant matters to provide transparency and accountability, while instilling public trust in the administration of CHA programs and initiatives.

Here are some of the 2016 OIG Significant Initiatives and Activities:

- Provided evidentiary and investigative support to the HCV and Public Housing Departments for 229 matters.

- Provided OIG recommendations to CHA Acting CEO, Eugene Jones based upon findings and observations derived from OIG Audits/Reviews and Investigations. CHA management concurred with the OIG's recommendations.
- Provided 9 training sessions regarding fraud and ethics/conflict of interest to CHA staff, contractors and CAC/LAC elected representatives.
- The OIG investigated and obtained criminal indictments in 14 matters at the state and federal level for a combined loss of approximately \$1,097,270.94.
- The OIG identified, through audits and audit follow-up, overbilling by two separate vendors (two separate audits) approximately \$1,350,539.
- The OIG increasingly utilized technology and data analysis to identify trends or patterns that may be indicative of fraud, waste and abuse. The OIG provided investigative support on several matters as a direct result of data analysis and provided the information to the HCV department for appropriate actions.
- The OIG Charter was amended to provide public reporting of quarterly and annual reports.
- The OIG maintained a leadership role on the Board of Illinois Chapter of the Association of Inspectors General and served as the Chapter Training Coordinator.
- The Association of Inspectors General (AIG) independent third party Peer Review Team conducted a thorough review of OIG operations. The Peer Review Team determined that the CHA OIG was compliant with no exceptions with the standards promulgated in the AIG *Principles and Standards for the Offices of Inspector General*. The Peer Review Team commended the OIG not only for the quality of our work product but also the strong alliance and support from internal and external stakeholders (prosecuting agencies and federal law-enforcement agencies).
- The OIG came under budget by \$340,049. The 2016 operating budget was \$1,254,229 and the OIG actual spend was \$914,180.

Here are some of the 2017 OIG Initiatives:

- Advise and inform the Chairman and the Finance/ Audit Committee of the Board in a timely manner of concerns and issues impacting the CHA that is within the OIG's jurisdiction.
- Advise and inform CHA Management on OIG findings and recommendations to root out fraud, waste, misconduct and abuse of public funds.
- Publish more OIG Advisories to CHA management pertaining to relevant and emergent issues that identify a potential fraud, waste, or abuse environment.
- Produce more OIG audits that identify a fraud environment in the administration of CHA programs.
- Maintain OIG compliance with the "Green Book" standards (Association of Inspector General).
- Develop more specialized subject matter areas for fraud awareness training of employees and contractors/vendors.
- Continue to provide evidentiary and investigative support for CHA internal departments such as the HCV Department for ITT hearings.
- Continue to maintain strong relationships with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, the Attorney General's Office, Cook County States Attorney's Office and the United States Attorney's Office to further the goal of successful criminal prosecutions where CHA is the victim of fraud.

- Pursue criminal and administrative investigations and seek restitution and/or forfeiture where appropriate.
- Expand the use of analytics to identify and detect fraud, waste and abuse.
- Collaborate with CEO Eugene Jones for specific initiatives that support CHA.

Lastly, I was reappointed to serve my second 4-year term by the Board of Commissioners (in September, 2016). I thank Chairman Hooker and members of the Board for your collective confidence in reappointing me for my second term. You have my assurance that I will lead the OIG with a renewed sense of vigor and dedication in the upcoming years.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elissa Rhee-Lee', written over a light gray rectangular background.

Elissa Rhee-Lee
Inspector General

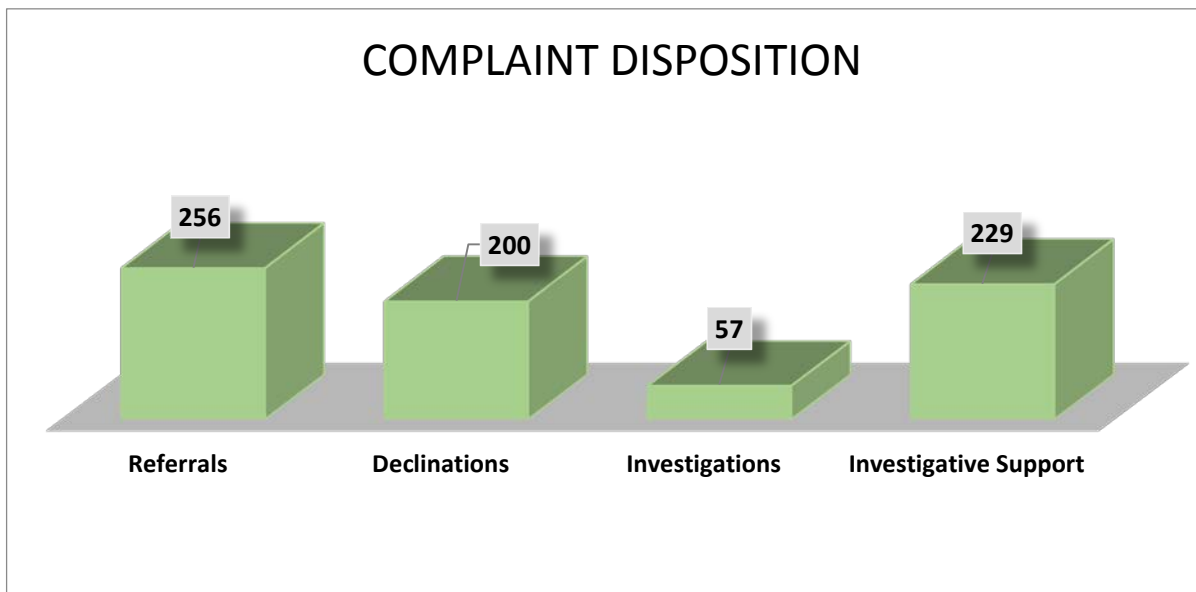
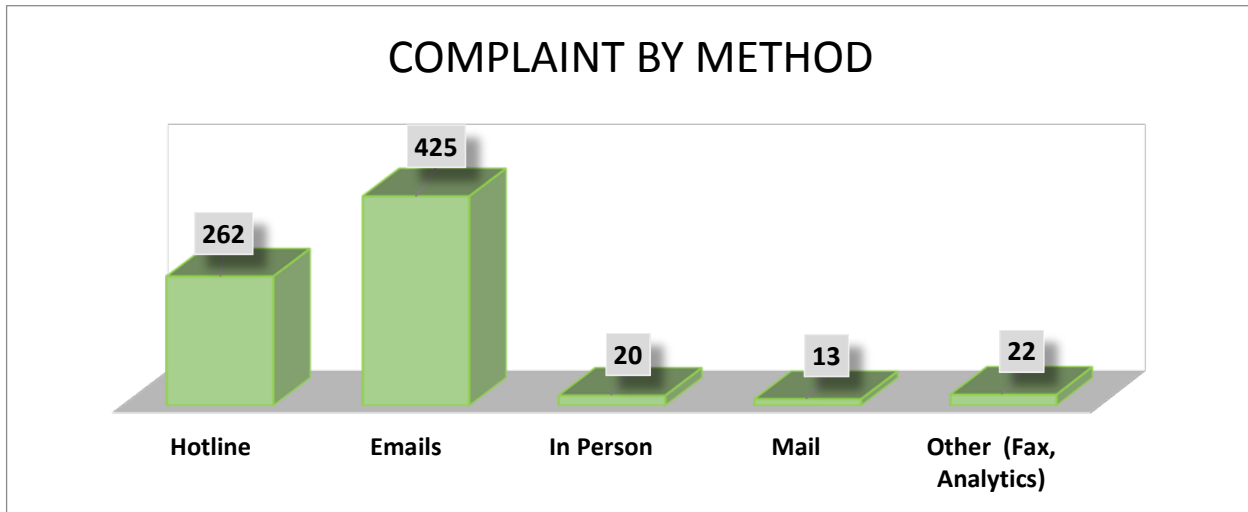
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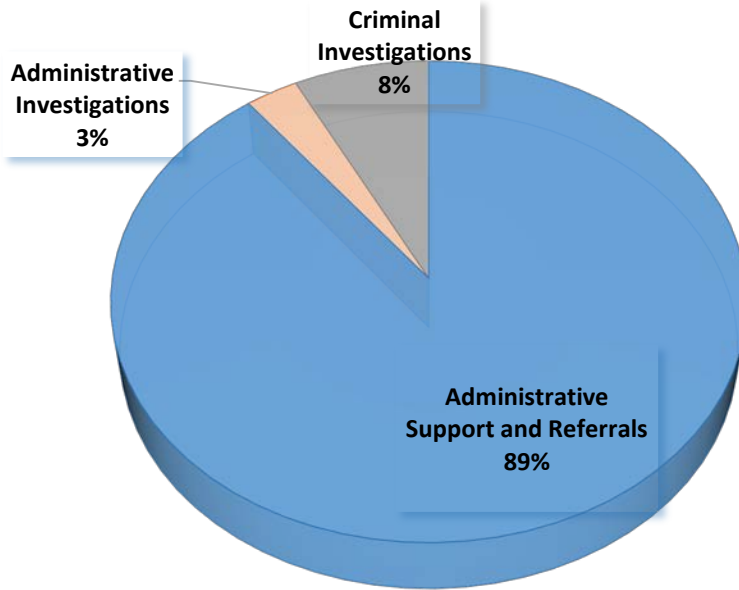
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I. STATISTICAL CHARTS AND GRAPHS OF COMPLAINTS

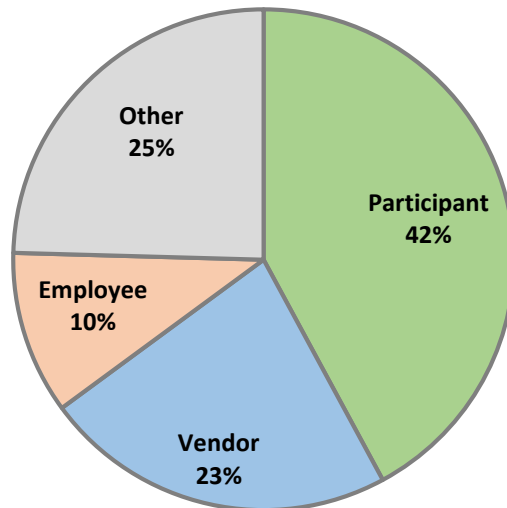


COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATION

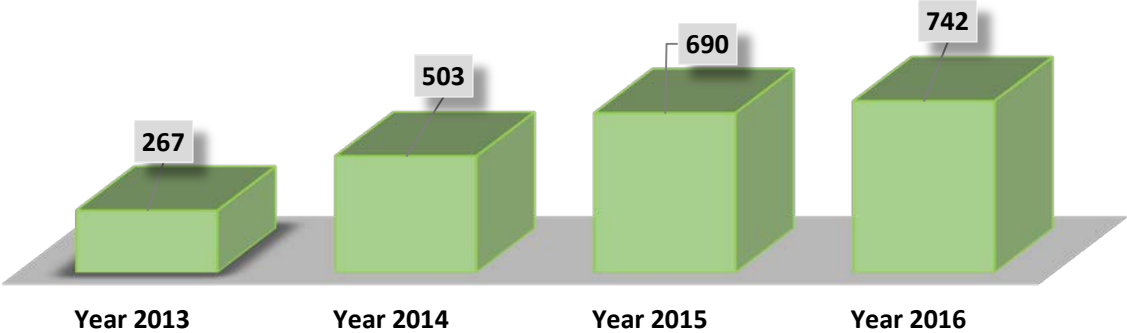


***Administrative Referrals** include referrals to other agencies as well as investigative support the OIG provides to the HCV department.

SUBJECT OF INVESTIGATION



YEARLY COMPLAINT COMPARISON



II. SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS, AUDITS, AND ADVISORIES

A. INVESTIGATIONS

In 2016, the OIG conducted investigations that led to criminal prosecutions and administrative sanctions. In addition to some of the cases highlighted in this report, the OIG is currently conducting 39 criminal and 6 administrative investigations.

INDICTMENTS

Contractor/Vendor Fraud

Cassandra Evans

Cassandra Evans was indicted on May 31, 2016 by the Office of the Illinois Attorney General for allegedly stealing funds intended for the Chicago Housing Authority.

The indictment alleges that between January 2016 and February 2016, Evans, an employee of a CHA property management company, deposited rent payments received from CHA tenants into her personal bank account and spent the money totaling over \$9,000 on personal items.

HCV Participant/Landlord Fraud

Lorraine Johnson

Lorraine Johnson was indicted on July 21, 2016 in U. S. District Court in Chicago for stealing government funds from the CHA and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

The indictment alleges that between August 2003 and June 2016, Johnson received in excess of \$212,000 (approximate CHA loss - \$134,039) from the CHA and the SSA by concealing income and assets through the use of a second Social Security number. In addition, Johnson submitted forged documents to allow her to collect housing assistance payments while residing as a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) participant in a house that she owned.

Cook County Regional Organized Crime's Task Force's Benefit Fraud Work Group

In August 2016, a total of 9 individuals were indicted by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office for allegedly defrauding CHA and other government agencies of more than \$1 million by falsely obtaining benefits to which they were not entitled, or engaging in other alleged schemes to cheat the housing agency and other government agencies out of their resources.

The charges against the individuals were brought following investigations by CHA OIG, who worked jointly with a variety of agencies including the Chicago Field Divisions of the Social Security Administration's OIG, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's OIG, the Department of Homeland Security OIG and the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services OIG.

The charges against the individuals involved a variety of alleged schemes, from fraudulently obtaining housing assistance funds from CHA by failing to report income to qualify for housing

assistance, to getting payments as a landlord in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program while at the same time securing a voucher that paid part of the rent.

Others charged provided false information to the Social Security Administration to obtain a second Social Security number in order to obtain housing subsidies or support to which they otherwise would have been entitled.

The cases are being prosecuted by the Cook County State's Attorney's Public Corruption/Financial Crimes Unit as part of an ongoing initiative through the Cook County Regional Organized Crime's Task Force's Benefit Fraud Work Group.

The names of those indicted include:

Aletta Applewhite
Doris Bell
Helen Davis
Arthur Dorsey Jr. (aka Cleveland Reed Jr.)
Wanda Goodloe
Tiajuana Hawthorne
Howard Headd
Ericka Island
Lorene Loyde

CONVICTIONS

Contractor/Vendor Fraud

Charlene Potts/Scott Washington

A CHA OIG investigation was initiated on October 25, 2012 and worked jointly with HUD OIG. The investigation involved former HCV vendor employee, Charlene Potts (Potts), who was alleged to have embezzled 26 CHA checks while working for the HCV Program between December 2006 and January 2008. The checks, totaling \$177,712.03, were made payable to Potts' husband Scott Washington (Washington).

On August 19, 2013 the Cook County State's Attorney's office filed an eight count indictment against Potts and a six count indictment against Washington.

On July 8, 2016, Potts pled guilty before the Honorable Judge William Hooks to one count of Financial Crime Conspiracy and was sentenced to 4 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections and ordered to pay restitution of \$88,500.

HCV Participant/Landlord Fraud

Latrish Nelson

A CHA OIG investigation was initiated in March 2014 and worked jointly with the Chicago Field Divisions of the Department of Homeland Security's OIG and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) OIG. The investigation involved Housing Choice Voucher participant, Latrish Nelson, who was alleged to have submitted fraudulent documents

to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to obtain benefits for emergency rental assistance.

On March 03, 2016, Nelson pled guilty before the Honorable Judge Mary Margaret Brosnahan to one count of Financial Institution Fraud and was sentenced to an 18-month probation and ordered to pay \$2,500 restitution to FEMA. The combined FEMA and CHA rental assistance fraud loss totaled \$12,496.

Darlene Banks

A CHA OIG investigation was initiated in May 2014 and worked jointly with the Chicago Field Divisions of the DHS OIG and HUD OIG. The investigation involved Housing Choice Voucher participant, Darlene Banks, who was alleged to have submitted fraudulent documents to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to obtain emergency rental assistance benefits. During this period, the CHA provided rental assistance in the form of Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) for Banks apartment.

On August 11, 2014, the Cook County State's Attorney's office filed a five count indictment against Banks. On July 15, 2016, Banks pled guilty before the Honorable Judge Neera Walsh to one count of Theft and was sentenced to a two-year probation and ordered to pay \$20,311 restitution to FEMA. Banks fraudulently obtained over \$77,211 in FEMA and CHA rental assistance payments.

Rosemarie Ellis

A CHA OIG investigation was initiated in March 2014 and worked jointly with the Chicago Field Divisions of the Department of Homeland Security's OIG and HUD OIG. The investigation involved CHA resident, Rosemarie Ellis, who was alleged to have submitted fraudulent documents to FEMA to obtain emergency rental assistance. During this time period, the CHA provided rental assistance on the form of Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) for Ellis' CHA apartment.

On August 25, 2014 Ellis was indicted by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. On July 8, 2016, Ellis pled guilty before the Honorable Judge William Hooks to one count of Continuing Financial Crime Enterprise and was sentenced to two years' probation and ordered to pay \$4,000 restitution FEMA. The combined fraud loss to FEMA and CHA for rental assistance payments totaled \$36,148.91.

Wanda Goodloe

Wanda Goodloe was indicted on April 19th, 2016 by the Cook County State's Attorney Office for fraudulently obtaining housing benefits from the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA). Goodloe was charged with four felony counts including Theft and Continuing Financial Crimes Enterprise.

The OIG investigation revealed that Goodloe was a household member on her mother's Housing Choice Voucher. Goodloe maintained a Power of Attorney for the HCV Participant (her mother) and submitted HCV applications on her mother's behalf in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013. In those applications, Goodloe reported no annual income for herself and submitted "Zero Income" affidavits. The OIG investigation determined that Goodloe failed to report her annual income

of between \$33,934 and \$47,184 from 2005 through 2013. Goodloe has worked for the same employer since 2004. The loss to the CHA was determined to be approximately \$117,000 for the years 2005 – 2013.

On November 22, 2016 Goodloe pled guilty to Theft of Government funds and was sentenced to 2 years' probation and ordered to pay restitution to the CHA totaling \$8,400.00

B. NOTEABLE INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT / REFERRALS

Recent criminal indictments show a clear trend of participant and landlord relationships as a basis for criminal fraud schemes. Thus, the OIG completed an analysis to determine whether a landlord was both renting to a relative, and residing jointly in an HCV unit.

Specifically, four instances were discovered that were not necessarily indicative of criminal fraud, but rather may be technical violations of CHA's HCV Program pursuant to 24 CFR 982.306(d) and CHA's Family Obligation policy. These prohibit a family or individual receiving Housing Choice Voice program assistance from residing in a unit owned by a spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sister or brother of any member of the family, unless the CHA has determined that approving rental of the unit would provide reasonable accommodation for a family member who is a person with disabilities. These four families have received benefits totaling approximately \$29,408.

In addition, the OIG requested that nine cases be further investigated to identify whether or not the tenants were in fact residing jointing with a relative. The approximate dollar loss for which these families have received benefits amounts to \$752,082.

The analysis also allowed the OIG to document areas where the HCV department and/or vendors should have reasonably determined potential relationships and joint tenancy of HCV owners and landlords. CHA's Application for Continued Eligibility has been updated, as well, to include additional questions that may mitigate this violation in the future. In particular, households are now required to mark whether one will be renting from a family member. If a household checks yes, they must indicate that they have the required documentation needed for approval to live in the unit.

C. ADVISORIES

The OIG issued seven advisories to CHA in 2016. The OIG issues advisories when systemic or high risk conditions are identified by the OIG during the course of audits, data analytics and/or investigations. Once the advisory is issued to CEO Eugene Jones, internal stakeholders are identified to address the concern raised in the advisory.

Advisory #	Description/Summary
2	Recommends that CHA review its policy on the employment of check protection services for all CHA accounts.
3	Vendor billed CHA above the contracted rate for a total of \$839,382.
4	Recommends one contracted employee be barred from working on matters related to CHA because of a prior unrelated OIG investigation.
5	Financial Interests and Collusion (See below for full details).
6	Chicago Building Code Scofflaw Ordinance (See below for full details).
7	Expansion of scope period in Advisory 2. Total overbilling is \$969,824.08. The OIG is working cooperatively with CHA to pursue recovery of the stated amount from the responsible contractor.
8	Risk of Vendor Duplicates within CHA Databases (See below for full details).

The following is a summary of significant advisories:

Financial Interests and Collusion

The OIG applied data mining techniques in an effort to proactively detect financial interests and collusion between an employee and a vendor, pursuant to the CHA Ethics Policy. The analysis resulted in one unfounded investigation.

Chicago Building Code Scofflaw Ordinance

The OIG utilized the City of Chicago's Data Portal, which contains a data set dedicated to the Chicago Building Code Scofflaw Ordinance. This Ordinance prevents landlords who refuse or refrain from correcting ongoing building code violations from receiving city contracts, including those that subsidize housing. To promote data transparency, the OIG referred the matter to the HCV Department, encouraging the utilization of such innovative tools that help identify those landlords who routinely violate Chicago building codes. The HCV Department ensured that this tool is part of their vendor process and quality control procedures.

Risk of Vendor Duplicates within CHA Databases

The OIG analyzed CHA's outside third-party vendors and the risks associated with these relationships. Understanding the structure of CHA's databases and using data mining techniques to identify trends and anomalies related to CHA's vendors enables the OIG to detect suspicious activity, which in turn increases the likelihood of uncovering fraud or potential fraud environment.

Based on the analysis, there is an abundance of vendor records in CHA's databases that are either duplicates or inactive vendors. Because these systems contain critical information about

vendors, it is imperative to eliminate redundant and inconsistent records, while strengthening controls to ensure proper authorization and record accuracy. Not acting accordingly may result in manipulation of financial accounts, duplicate payments, and/or the creation of a fictitious vendor. The OIG is working with CHA internal stakeholders to conduct due diligence on third-party relationships and to assist in detecting and preventing vendor-related fraud schemes. By recognizing and resolving apparent red flags, CHA can improve its current and future operations, and mitigate fraud, waste and abuse of CHA funds.

D. AUDITS

Change Order Audit

The OIG conducted a performance audit of Change Order (CO) practices for construction by the CHA Capital Construction Department (CCD). Primarily, the audit assessed the risk environment and the existing controls to minimize potential for fraud, waste and abuse. The following notable observations are based on a sample of approved and closed contracts during Fiscal Year 2015:

1. CCD did not have formally approved policies and procedures for the department. There was also no centralized system for construction project related documents.
2. The CO process was not in compliance with CHA's Procurement Manual requirement.
3. In regards to the use of a fire suppression allowance,
 - a. There was a lack of comprehensive assessment of the general scope at the initiation of projects.
 - b. CCD used the Fire Suppression Allowance for a task unrelated to the *City of Chicago Life Safety and High-Rise Ordinance Fire Code*.
 - c. Contractors improperly charged overhead and profit costs for a total of \$511,157.26, which represents 16% of the total cost of the work.
4. The roles and responsibilities of internal stakeholders were not clearly defined amongst the CO committee members.
5. Bonding requirements were not confirmed for the bond adjustments related to the CO's. Even though CHA reimbursed the General Contractor (GC) for the cost of the bond adjustments, no supporting documentation were provided by the GC that verified additional bond was purchased.
6. There was an inconsistent application of the Significant Actions Policy (now corrected by the Board approved Significant Actions Policy).
7. The independent cost estimate (ICE) and the GC's cost proposal were not congruent.

The Audit was presented to the Audit Committee on December 6th, 2016. During the course of the audit, CCD made significant process improvements to mitigate the risks and continues to act accordingly to meet operational goals and objectives of the CHA Plan Forward. The identified waste of \$511,157.26 will be credited back to CHA. The OIG will follow-up with CCD on the implementation of the Audit recommendations in 2017.

Review of PPMs use of Emergency Contracts

The PPM Emergency Contracts Review has been completed and the notable observations and recommendations respectively are:

1. The PPMs submitted a request to procure predictable seasonal operational services (snow removal and landscaping) to the Property Office. Due to lack of timely process and forecasting by the Property Office, the non-emergency service (regular maintenance contracts) became an emergency service.

Property Office should process procurement requests following CHA's established timelines for maintenance contracts.

2. The PPMs awarded emergency contracts for non-emergency services as defined by HUD and CHA Procurement Procedures Guide Manual.

Property Office should take appropriate actions (including a default notice) when PPMs' deviate from HUD and CHA's Emergency Procurement Procedures.

3. PPMs awarded 417 contracts under \$2,000. Out of the 417, 35% (145 out of 417) were for contracts awarded on the same date, to the same contractor, for similar services to be performed at the same location. Contracts over \$2,000 required additional CHA approvals. To avoid going through the CHA approval process, the PPMs executed multiple contracts under \$2,000.

Have the PPMs adhere to their contractual obligation with CHA and HUD regulations, and adhere to Exhibit G of the PPMs' Master Contract section regarding Procurement and Compliance Requirements.

4. The Property Office did not maintain a comprehensive list of all Emergency Contracts and/or emergency task orders awarded by the PPMs. The Property Office provided a list of twenty-one Emergency Contracts while the PPMs provide a list of five hundred twenty-nine (529).

Ensure that Property Office and PPMs are provided with adequate training including written procedures identifying their job responsibility. Have a centralized location where adequate documentation is prepared and retained in the contract files. Ensure that the PPMs' Emergency contract files are adequately stored in a manner that facilitates retrieval by the Property Office and other departments that need files for official use.

The Property Office concurred with all OIG recommendations. The final report was presented and discussed with the audit committee in the second quarter of 2016.

E. 2017 OIG PRELIMINARY AUDIT PLAN

The OIG audit plan is subject to change based upon OIG observations, requests by CHA management, and any other emergent issue that requires the OIG to respond in a timely review. (See Attachment I).

III. FRAUD AWARENESS TRAINING SESSIONS

The OIG’s Fraud Awareness Training sessions have not only been instrumental in bringing awareness to employees and contractors about fraud, but also provided invaluable information on how to contact the OIG regarding concerns about the administration of CHA programs. In 2014, the OIG processed 503 complaints, in 2015 the OIG processed 690 complaints, and in 2016 the OIG processed 742 complaints. Fraud Awareness Training sessions will be conducted every year and upon request. I believe that this type of training supports prevention and also acts as a deterrent.

The OIG has held 9 Fraud Awareness Trainings sessions this year. Below is a list of the business unit and contractors that received the training:

Training Date	Business Unit / Contractor
03/08/16	Realty and Mortgage Management
03/31/16	4 trainings for CHA department staff
04/01/16	McCormack Baron Management
04/04/16	The Habitat Company
12/13/16	CAC / LAC elected representatives

IV. INTERNAL OPERATIONS

I completed the OIG staff evaluations in December 2016 and completed the one-on-one with each staff member the first week of January 2017. The evaluations of the OIG staff were tendered to Pat Rios, the Chief Administrative Officer. Other relevant operational matters are addressed below.

A. PEER REVIEW

The Association of Inspectors General (AIG) third party Peer Review Team conducted a thorough review of OIG operations in June 2016 including but not limited to, policies and procedures, investigations and audit reports, case management system and segregations of OIG exclusive office space. They also interviewed external (FBI and prosecutors) and internal (Chief Executive Officer and Chief Legal Officer) stakeholders. The Peer Review Team determined that the CHA OIG is compliant with no exceptions with the standards promulgated in the AIG *Principles and Standards for the Offices of Inspector General*. They were extremely impressed with the quality of our work and the level of respect shown to the OIG.

B. BUDGET INFORMATION

The OIG has consistently come under budget in 2014, 2015, and 2016. The main reason besides fiscal responsibility is that the OIG did not have an appropriate opportunity to use a consultant for an investigation or an audit. It is still imperative that the consultant fee line item is always maintained. The investigative services consultant contract was awarded to Deloitte after an RFP. The use of outside consultant Deloitte will only be used when there is a strategic need for one of the following practices such as: forensic accounting, intelligence and digital forensics.

2017 OIG Budget		2016 OIG Budget	2016 Actuals	2015 OIG Budget	2015 Actuals
Account	Total Account	Total Account	2016	Total Account	2015
TRAINING-STAFF	6,000	6,000	2,847	8,800	1,078
TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS	8,000	3,000	1,429	6,000	5,348
ACCOUNTING & AUDITING COSTS		6,000	3,584	0	0
STATIONARY & OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,000	4,800	1,253	4,000	1,187
PUBLICATIONS	19,000	13,800	2,275	3,600	2,142
COMPUTER EXPENSES		38,600	38,550		2,517
MEMBERSHIP DUES & FEES	4,050	4,000	2,845	3,650	
PRINTING & DUPLICATION SVC	2,500	2,500	654	2,500	466
CONSULTANT FEES	265,000	248,400	1,240	299,500	11,492
OFFICE EQUIP NON-CAPITALIZED	1,100	3,000	491	0	0
COURT COSTS&REPORTING FEES	1,400	2,000	0	700	327
MEETING COSTS	200	150	0	0	0
TEMPORARY OFFICE HELP	20,000		0	0	0
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	2,500	0
PERSONNEL (Loaded)	985,598	921,979	859,011	808,462	804,714
Total Budget	1,317,848	1,254,229	914,180	1,139,712	829,271

C. OIG STAFF AND CREDENTIALS

The OIG staff is comprised of investigators (including former federal law enforcement), auditors, and analysts with deep institutional knowledge as well as subject matter experts in areas of OIG Audits and Analytics.

Elissa Rhee-Lee has been an attorney in the Chicago Area for 30 plus years. Elissa's area of expertise is in Criminal Law, corporate and internal investigations, and regulatory compliance. Elissa was appointed by the Board of Commissioners in December 2012 to head the newly independent CHA Office of the Inspector General.

James McNally is the Deputy Inspector General. He came to the OIG after over 21 years with the FBI and five years as the Director of Corporate Security for a national utility company. He is a graduate of Northern Illinois University and has a Master's degree from Lewis University in Public Safety Administration. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner and a Certified Inspector General.

Ellaye Accoh is a Certified Inspector General Auditor and Certified Government Auditing Professional with over eighteen years of experience in the fields of Audit and Investigation. Ellaye has a Bachelor's degree in Finance and a Master's degree in Accounting. Ellaye has been working for the CHA OIG since 1998. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner.

Beatriz Martinez is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Inspector General Auditor and a Certified Fraud Examiner with over 23 years of accounting experience and over 10 years of experience as an auditor. Beatriz joined CHA as a Quality Control Financial Analyst in the HCV Department in 2010. A year later, she was promoted to HCV Accounting Supervisor. Beatriz joined the OIG as a Senior Auditor in August 2013. Prior to CHA, Beatriz worked as an Internal Auditor for the Office of the Special Deputy Receiver for over seven years. She also worked pro-bono at Latinos Progresando and currently provides Income Tax assistance to low-income residents. Beatriz has a Bachelor degree in Accounting from Robert Morris University.

Justin King joined the OIG as an Investigator in August 2013. Prior to that, Justin spent over four years as the Housing Compliance Project Coordinator in the CHA's Legal Department helping investigate and initiate Criminal Activity Eviction cases. He was also responsible for the monitoring and reporting of eviction cases for the entire CHA portfolio. Justin is a Certified Fraud Examiner and a Certified Inspector General Investigator.

Mark Lischka joined the OIG on January 6, 2014 as a Senior Investigator after having served as a Supervisory Special Agent with the United States Department of Treasury, Criminal Investigation Division. Mark has over 30 years of experience in financial and corporate fraud investigations. Mark has expertise in tracing money and assets, forensic accounting, organizing evidence and report writing. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner and a Certified Inspector General Investigator.

Michelle Harrington joined the OIG in October 2016 as an Operations Analyst. Michelle previously worked for two other housing authorities in Seattle and Austin with the Housing Choice Voucher and Low Income Public Housing programs. Michelle is a graduate of Texas State University with a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration. She has over 10 years of experience in the public and private sector.

Ashley Lindemann joined the OIG in March 2016 as an Information Analyst after receiving her Master's Degree in Criminology/Criminal Justice from Loyola University Chicago. Previously, Ashley interned for Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General where she assisted agents in fraud investigations. Ashley is also heavily trained in research and has provided statistical models, trends and analyses to various government agencies in Illinois.

D. OIG STAFF CHANGES

The OIG hired new employees in 2016 to fill the newly created Information Analyst position and the Operations Analyst position that was vacated in August 2016. The Analysts provide data analytics/data mining to identify red flags, patterns and trends to support investigations and audits. In addition, the Analysts provide operational support for the OIG team and internal CHA departments.

E. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

DEBARMENT

OIG recommended debarment of several vendors based upon an OIG investigation which was concurred by CEO Eugene Jones. At this time, the debarment proceeding is still pending with CHA management.