

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

# BUILDING ON A FOUNDATION OF INTEGRITY



PHILADELPHIA OFFICE OF THE  
**INSPECTOR GENERAL**

JIM F. KENNEY, MAYOR | AMY L. KURLAND, INSPECTOR GENERAL

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is to boost public confidence in City government by rooting out corruption, fraud, misconduct, waste and mismanagement. A watchdog for City taxpayers, the OIG has authority under the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter to conduct investigations of all departments, agencies, commissions and boards under the Mayor's jurisdiction.

The office also investigates individuals or companies doing business with the City or receiving City funding. Its investigative expertise is available to any City agency in need of assistance. An operationally independent office, the OIG conducts both criminal and administrative investigations. It has the power to issue subpoenas; to examine all City documents, contracts and monetary expenditures made from the City treasury; and to demand testimony from City employees.

The office works with federal, state and local law enforcement when conducting criminal investigations and serious integrity-related complaints of fraud, abuse and corruption. The office conducts these investigations either in response to a complaint or on the Inspector General's own initiative to detect misconduct, inefficiency and waste within the programs and operations of City government.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

2

A LETTER TO  
OUR PARTNERS

4

POWER IN  
NUMBERS

6

HOW WE  
WORK

9

TRANSITIONING  
WITH INTEGRITY

11

ADMINISTRATIVE  
CASES

13

CRIMINAL  
CASES

15

PROTECTING  
THE PUBLIC

17

NON-PROFIT  
CASES

18

DEPARTMENTAL  
REFORM

20

COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT  
& OUTREACH

23

SCHOOL  
DISTRICT



# A LETTER TO OUR PARTNERS

The City of Philadelphia never stands still. It constantly grows, evolves and builds upon itself. Today, the City holds ever-present reminders of where we've been and where we're going. New construction abounds, new leadership takes charge, new ideas surface, new voices speak and new initiatives are born. Together, we are building a stronger Philadelphia.

As the City grows, the Office of the Inspector General grows with it. Its impact is broader, and its reach is farther, but its mission remains unchanged – even as Philadelphia now moves into a new era with new challenges. It is this mission – an honest government – that serves as the foundation of development in Philadelphia today.

In 2016, the Kenney Administration and OIG worked together to demonstrate our staunch commitment to integrity and the continued importance of our work. As the City shifted to new leadership, the OIG conducted more than 200 comprehensive background investigations for appointments in City government, various boards and commissions. The OIG also assisted with training and education for those who were new to City government.

2



The Kenney Administration, in turn, hit the ground running, and the OIG seamlessly continued the tradition of successful casework. This year, OIG investigations saved valuable taxpayer dollars and resulted in significant criminal and administrative outcomes. The Pension Disqualification Program also saw renewed success, easing the burden on the already-stressed pension fund.

These results, however, are only a small part of our ongoing pledge to ensure honesty and integrity in the City of Philadelphia. In 2016, the OIG continued its public engagement campaign to raise awareness about the importance of government integrity. And, the OIG's endeavors have expanded across the City, with new allies and innovative focuses on collaborative programs in furtherance of its mission.

Our job is never done, however, no matter how much we have accomplished so far; we will always uphold the ideal that all Philadelphians are entitled to an honest government.

Today, tomorrow, in 2017 and beyond, we will continue to build upon a foundation of integrity.

Sincerely,

*James F. Kenney*

*Amy L. Kurland*

Mayor Jim F. Kenney and  
Inspector General Amy L. Kurland



# POWER IN NUMBERS

## 2016 CASE RESULTS

<b>228</b>	<b>5</b>
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS	RESTITUTIONS
<b>31</b>	<b>5</b>
TERMINATIONS	FINES/ASSESSMENTS
<b>44</b>	<b>4</b>
SUSPENSIONS/DEMOTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>
CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS	CONTRACT SUSPENSION
<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
RECOVERIES	PENSION DISQUALIFICATIONS

**OVER**



**\$9,152,872**

**TOTAL SAVINGS & RECOVERY**

4

## FINANCIAL SAVINGS

Suspension	\$40,381.41
Demotion/Salary Reduction (2-yr projection)	\$21,262.00
Termination (2-yr projection)	\$3,611,858.00
DROP (resigned/terminated prior to DROP date)	\$152,565.52
PELP <sup>1</sup>	\$1,080.00
Pension Savings <sup>2</sup>	\$4,199,110.47
<b>TOTAL SAVINGS</b>	<b>\$8,026,257.40</b>

<sup>1</sup> OIG investigations often uncover significant inefficiencies that, if left unchecked, would cause economic loss. In such cases, OIG recommendations result in additional financial savings.

<sup>2</sup> Pension savings represent disqualification due to criminal conviction. Pension disbursement savings can also be significant if an employee is terminated or resigns as a result of an investigation.

## FINANCIAL RECOVERY

Recovery	\$263,724.56
Restitution	\$860,190.48
Fines	\$2,700.00
<b>TOTAL RECOVERY</b>	<b>\$1,126,615.04</b>

**TOTAL SAVINGS AND RECOVERY . . . . . \$9,152,872.44**

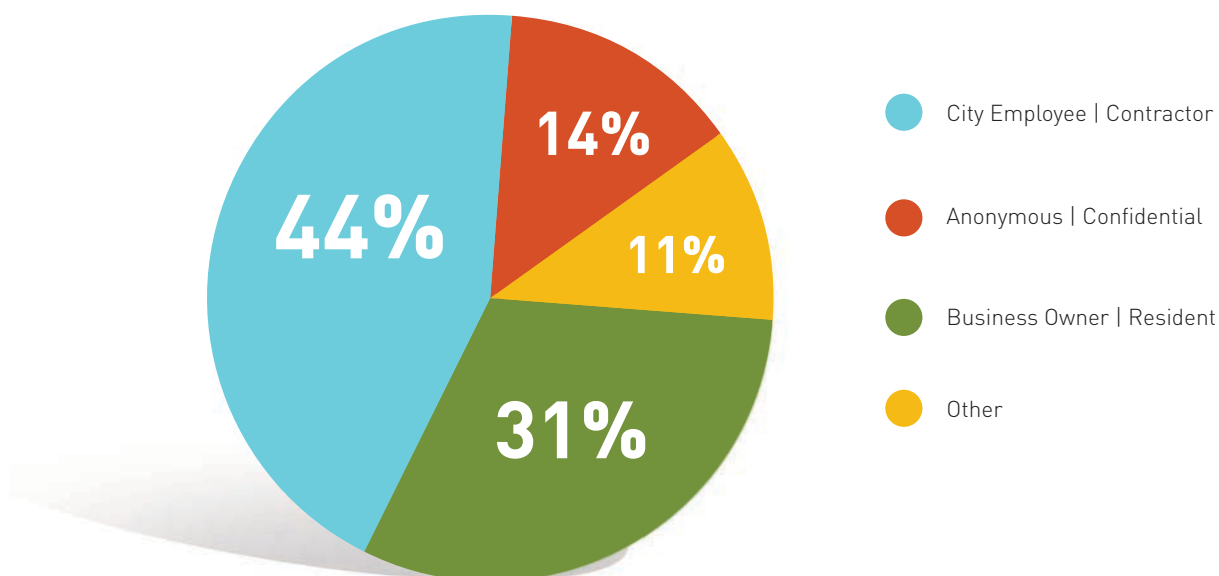
## CONTRACT REVIEW

**TOTAL APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF CONTRACTS REVIEWED IN 2016 . . . . . \$318,112,318.05**

## CASES OPENED BY DEPARTMENT

Board of Revision of Taxes . . . . .	2	Office of Innovation and Technology . . . . .	4
City Commissioner's Office. . . . .	1	Office of Property Assessment . . . . .	2
City Planning Commission . . . . .	1	Office of Supportive Housing . . . . .	4
City Treasurer's Office . . . . .	1	Other. . . . .	18
Commerce Department . . . . .	5	Parks and Recreation. . . . .	5
Department of Human Services . . . . .	16	Philadelphia Housing Development Corp.. . . . .	2
Department of Licenses & Inspections . . . . .	22	Philadelphia Parking Authority. . . . .	1
Finance Department . . . . .	2	Philadelphia Prisons . . . . .	6
Fire Department . . . . .	3	Police Department . . . . .	6
Fleet Management . . . . .	1	Procurement Department . . . . .	1
Free Library . . . . .	4	Records Department . . . . .	5
Health Department . . . . .	9	Redevelopment Authority. . . . .	1
Law Department . . . . .	2	Revenue Department . . . . .	5
Managing Director's Office . . . . .	3	School District. . . . .	4
Mayor's Office . . . . .	2	Sheriff's Office. . . . .	1
Mayor's Office of Community Services. . . . .	2	Streets Department. . . . .	17
Office of Housing & Community Dev. . . . .	2	Water Department . . . . .	16

## SOURCE OF OIG COMPLAINTS





# HOW WE WORK

Most OIG cases start with a complaint submitted by a member of the public, an employee or a City official. Cases are assigned to investigators, who conduct background research, interview witnesses and review documents to determine whether City, state and federal regulations or laws have been broken. Where a violation has occurred, the OIG releases Reports of Investigation, which recommend corrective and disciplinary action to City departments, including termination. And where systemic problems are identified, the OIG issues Policy Recommendation Reports, which suggest changes to procedures to improve government efficiency and safeguard taxpayer dollars. We also work closely with law enforcement agencies when criminal violations are suspected.



6

## PROTECTING OUR TIPSTERS

Most of the hundreds of complaints the OIG investigates each year come from City employees who want their departments to operate with honesty and integrity. Hundreds more come from members of the public, as well as elected officials who take time to report their concerns. The OIG works tirelessly to protect the identity of individuals who provide information in connection with an investigation, as outlined in Executive Order 7-14. Our work depends on the courage of these committed citizens.





**ANYONE CAN SUBMIT  
AN ANONYMOUS TIP**

THROUGH OIG'S WEBSITE,  
**PHILA.GOV/IG**, BY PHONE AT  
**215-686-1770** OR BY MAIL AT  
601 WALNUT STREET, SUITE 300 EAST,  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106.

## INTEGRITY OFFICER PROGRAM

Integrity Officers serve as the first line of defense against fraud, corruption, abuse and misconduct. Each City department has an OIG-trained Integrity Officer who works closely with OIG, notifying the Office of any problems and providing invaluable research, support and knowledge on the ground to aid the office in all its cases. All of the Integrity Officers were handpicked by the Inspector General based on experience and a proven track record of ethical service.

Integrity Officers are sworn in each year at a ceremony in City Hall. At this event, Inspector General Kurland also announces and presents the annual Joan Markman Award for Integrity to an individual who has made a special effort to work with the OIG to promote ethical government. The award, previously named the Inspector General Integrity Award, honors the memory of Joan Markman, the City's first Chief Integrity Officer, who passed away January 15, 2015.

In 2016, the Award was presented to Daniel Cantu-Hertzler — a 13-year veteran of the City's Law Department who has assisted in brokering multimillion-dollar settlements with companies that violated the City's anti-discrimination policies. The 2017 Award winner will be honored at the Integrity Officer Swearing-In Ceremony on March 8, 2017.



## COLLABORATION YIELDS RESULTS

As the OIG expands its reach, the office continues to forge strong partnerships with oversight and law enforcement agencies at all levels of government. A founding member of the Philadelphia anti-corruption task force, the OIG works closely with the Philadelphia Police Department, the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Attorney's Office and the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General on significant criminal corruption cases. Within the City, we work with the Chief Integrity Officer and the Board of Ethics on cases where the subject has violated a provision of the Ethics Code. Teamwork is essential to success, and each of these partnerships has yielded important victories in the battle against corruption.



8

## COMMITMENT TO PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Our staff understands that the importance of the OIG's mission demands high-quality work and a team of skilled and experienced professionals. OIG employees are encouraged to attend specialized trainings, certification courses and other outside professional development resources. More than 80 percent of the OIG's investigators are certified by the national Association of Inspectors General (AIG), and six are Certified Fraud Examiners. OIG staff regularly participate in continuing education programs through the AIG, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), the Center for the Advancement of Public Integrity (CAPI), the Philadelphia Bar Association, the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics (SCCE) and other professional development organizations.

■ IN JUNE, DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL ALEXANDER DESANTIS WAS HONORED IN WHO'S NEXT, A BILLY PENN FEATURE PRESENTED BY THE KNIGHT FOUNDATION THAT HIGHLIGHTS PHILADELPHIA'S ACCOMPLISHED YOUNG PEOPLE. THIS EDITION, WHO'S NEXT LAW, PROFILED 18 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE "CHANGING THE LEGAL COMMUNITY IN PHILLY." CONGRATULATIONS!

# TRANSITIONING WITH INTEGRITY

When Mayor Kenney took his oath of office, he vowed not only to preserve but to expand on the culture of transparency, ethics and integrity in government. He requested the OIG's assistance in staffing the new Administration with individuals who exemplify the qualities we want to achieve in City government. In 2016 and late 2015, the OIG conducted over 220 background investigations on individuals being considered for senior-level positions in City government and various boards and commissions. These investigations helped the Kenney Administration to make well-informed decisions as to who would represent the City at its highest levels. During the transition, the OIG also held individual meetings with each department to discuss how to bring new employees up to speed on the City's integrity practices.



## CITY-WIDE TRAINING

Prevention begins with education. All government employees should know the rules and how to spot the signs of wrongdoing. As part of the OIG's commitment to a smooth transition, we strengthened some of our core educational programs and focused on training a new City workforce.

### GROWING 'BIDS GONE BAD'

In 2015, the OIG partnered with the Chief Integrity Office (CIO) to develop "Bids Gone Bad" – an interactive, City-wide training initiative that teaches City employees how to vet contractors' finances and how to assess their ability to fulfill the terms of a contract before it is awarded. The program also teaches participants how to spot warning signs of fraud, bribery and conflicts of interest throughout the contract bidding process.

In 2016, the Philadelphia Water Department worked with the OIG and CIO to create a webinar version of "Bids Gone Bad." All employees who work with contracts are now required to take the webinar. And, the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics has asked the OIG and CIO to present a version of "Bids Gone Bad" at its annual national conference.



*Inspector General Kurland, Chief Integrity Officer Ellen Kaplan and First Deputy City Solicitor Craig Straw host a discussion and Q&A with participants of the 2016 Mayor's Internship Program.*

## ONBOARD TRAININGS

At the start of the Kenney Administration, the OIG and CIO developed an introductory training on the City contracting process and issues that can occur during that process. The training was delivered to Executive Team members new to City government. The Procurement Department also requested that the OIG and CIO expand the original "Bids Gone Bad" training to include information specific to certain positions in the department, such as buyers and inspectors. Together, we offered best practices based on the responsibilities of each position. These trainings will continue in 2017.

10

## PHILLY311

Philly311 Call Center Operators are among the OIG's most important partners. Many of the OIG's investigations originate from public complaints that were transferred to our office from Philly311 Operators. To help streamline the process, OIG employees delivered a series of presentations that helped clarify the scope of the OIG's jurisdiction and the types of complaints that we handle.

*OIG personnel brief 311 Operators about our mission and jurisdiction.*



# ADMINISTRATIVE CASES

Most OIG cases begin as investigations into violations of City rules and regulations. City employees are bound by a variety of City Charter provisions, Civil Service and Administrative Board regulations and departmental policies – all of which are aimed at ensuring an honest and efficient workforce.

Where a report of a violation of these rules has been sustained against a City employee, the OIG issues a Report of Investigation that recommends disciplinary action – ranging from demotion to suspension to termination from employment.



## MAIL-FEASANCE

Starting in 2015, the OIG received multiple complaints about the City's outgoing Mail Center, a subdivision of the Revenue Department. The allegations were wide-ranging, including: possible overtime abuse, supervisory misconduct, sleeping on the job, substance abuse and a general lack of regard for work standards and practices.

A painstaking OIG investigation substantiated a long-standing pattern of misconduct within

the Mail Center that included substantial overtime abuse. Two key supervisors resigned during the course of the investigation, and several more employees will face significant suspensions for violations of City policy and procedure. Most importantly, however, the OIG's work helped the Mail Center make noteworthy improvements moving forward – with a new organizational structure, new supervision, better quality control and workflow management. Now, the Mail Center functions at a much higher level, and City mailings are more efficient, prompt and secure.

## SUPER-POWERED POWER WASHER

During a routine review of City fuel consumption, Fleet Management discovered that a single power washer used almost 20,000 gallons of gasoline in one year – about 40 times the average for that type of equipment. Fleet Management asked the OIG to investigate, and we discovered that two employees were filling the power washer with gas and then selling it on the underground market. When OIG investigators confronted the employees with the evidence of their theft, they both resigned in lieu of termination.



**RESIDENCY VIOLATIONS, THEFT OF TIME AND SICK LEAVE ABUSE**

Even as the OIG broadens its reach and expands into new areas of investigation, we continue to aggressively pursue allegations that City employees are violating the residency requirement, stealing time from the City or violating sick leave policies.

In 2016, a total of 16 employees were terminated or resigned in lieu of termination in connection with residency, theft-of-time and false sick note investigations. In the interest of City-wide integrity and morale, these cases continue to send a strong message that all employees must follow the rules.



**UN-UNIFIED DISPATCH**

OIG investigators received information that several dispatchers in a central communications unit were engaged in a collaborative scheme to steal time. Office regulations required two dispatchers to be working at all times, in order to ensure that all radio calls were answered. But, the employees were consistently splitting shifts and covering for one another. The OIG

investigation identified more than 154 hours of paid manpower that was never actually provided. In addition to the supervisor, 5 of the 7 dispatchers were disciplined, ranging from demotion to suspension to termination from employment. The OIG also recommended that the dispatch unit be relocated to a more central office to increase efficiency and oversight.

**SECONDARY EMPLOYMENT**

City employees serve the public first and foremost. Only in select circumstances, with prior approval and where the work does not conflict with official duties, may City employees work second jobs. And, employees who are receiving sick or injury benefits from the City may not be simultaneously working elsewhere. During his first year in office, Mayor Kenney updated and reinforced these long-standing rules, and the OIG has been committed to enforcement.

In 2016, three members of the City workforce were suspended for violating this policy, including one who was working at a private job while getting workers' compensation. In another case, a citizen complained that a City vehicle was left parked on her block for hours during the workday. Upon investigation, the OIG discovered that the car was issued to a City employee who used it to commute to a second job while also "on the clock" for the City. When the employee found out that the OIG discovered his scheme, he immediately resigned in lieu of termination.



# CRIMINAL CASES

The OIG has continued to work closely with local and federal law enforcement agencies – including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), United States Attorney’s Office and District Attorney’s Office – in cases where investigators suspect that state and federal criminal statutes have been broken. This year, OIG investigations have led to 15 criminal enforcement actions and restitution for the City of Philadelphia and for others who have been financially harmed.



## COUNTERFEIT SEPTA PASSES AT 311

After receiving an anonymous complaint regarding the sale of counterfeit SEPTA TransPasses at Philly311, the OIG began a long-term investigation jointly with the FBI and SEPTA OIG. In 2016, the investigation resulted in criminal convictions for two former Philly311 employees: Kim Adams and Mark Cooper. The investigation uncovered that Adams and Cooper were involved in a scheme that defrauded SEPTA of more than \$200,000. Both pled guilty to federal criminal charges and were ordered to pay full restitution to SEPTA.

Criminal enforcement, however, is just one small piece of the OIG’s full-circle approach to integrity. Following the OIG-FBI-SEPTA criminal investigation, the OIG pursued administrative discipline for the City employees at Philly311 who were involved in the counterfeit scheme. Two employees were terminated from employment and another 25 employees were suspended.



## EXTORTION BY FORMER L+I EMPLOYEE

A joint OIG-FBI investigation found that John Wright, former L+I Construction Plan Review Specialist, forced a contractor to provide him with cash payouts in exchange for occupancy certificates or other permits. Wright was arrested and terminated from his position with L+I. In 2016, he pled guilty to attempted Hobbs Act Extortion in federal court and was sentenced to serve a year and one day in prison.

## FORMER SHERIFF CHARGED

The OIG worked closely with the FBI in a joint investigation that resulted in federal criminal charges against former Philadelphia Sheriff John D. Green. According to the indictment, which was unsealed in December 2015, Green allegedly delegated major duties of his public office to advertising and title firms owned by James Davis. In exchange, Davis allegedly gave Green campaign contributions, a job for Green's wife and home payments – including more than \$320,000 toward a retirement home in Florida. The U.S.

Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of PA charged Green with 10 counts of honest services fraud and conspiracy. Trial is currently scheduled to begin in spring 2017.



# PROTECTING THE PUBLIC

## DEED PREPARATION SCAM

In January 2016, the OIG and FBI investigated allegations that a former Customer Service Representative with the City of Philadelphia routinely charged citizens for services she was required to provide at no cost. The investigation found that the City employee was soliciting funds from citizens for “deed preparation” during work hours. The individual resigned from her position.

## WANDA ROGERS: PHILADELPHIA DEEDS AND REGISTRY OFFICE SCAM

In October, State officials filed a consumer protection lawsuit against Wanda Rogers, who allegedly scammed new homeowners into paying for copies of their deeds. According to the lawsuit, which followed an investigation conducted jointly by the Pennsylvania Attorney General’s Office, the OIG, and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Rogers sent letters to homeowners asking them to pay a fee to obtain a copy of their deed. Her letter solicited a processing fee between \$135 and \$227. Rogers had no affiliation to the City, but some variations of her letters allegedly bore the symbol of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, named her business as the Philadelphia Deeds and Registry Offices and listed fictitious government officials on her letters, misleading the public to believe she was

a government official. The lawsuit seeks full restitution for all consumers who paid money to Rogers and requires Rogers to pay significant civil penalties under the Consumer Protection Law.



BRIAN TURNER/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

OCTOBER 11, 2016

### Lawsuit: Philadelphia woman had new homeowners paying for free city service

BY HAYDEN MITMAN  
PhillyVoice Contributor

**S**tate officials have filed a consumer protection lawsuit against a Philadelphia woman who allegedly scammed new homeowners in the city into paying for a service provided for free by the city.

Inspector General Amy L. Kurland said Tuesday that the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General filed a civil consumer protection lawsuit against Wanda D. Rogers, who allegedly operated the Philadelphia Deeds and Registry Offices — a fictitious government office.

Kurland asked homeowners who might have been victimized by the scheme to contact her office.

NEWS | COURTS

## Fed fraud charge for ex-chief of elections

BY JEREMY ROEBUCK  
Staff Writer

**F**ROM THE outside, the unremarkable building at 2687 N. 5th St. — Junata Community Mental Health Clinic's headquarters — looks no different from dozens of other drab structures that line the roads in the city's poverty-stricken Fairhill neighborhood.

But, federal authorities say, the building lies at the heart of a fraud worth hundreds of thousands of dollars and one that could leave yet another blemish on the reputation of a Philadelphia political dynasty.

On Wednesday, prosecutors accused Renee Tartaglione — the building's owner and daughter of former city elections chief Margaret "Marge" Tartaglione, sister of State Sen. Christine M. Tartaglione (D, Phila.), and the clinic's former board president — with treating the nonprofit like her own personal slush fund.

In a 33-count indictment, prosecutors allege that she siphoned off its government funding to line her own pockets at the expense of low-income up building — including

— to rent. Between 2009 and 2014, the month building sh the clinic fr After the el story, 28.0



Renee Tartaglione leaves federal court with her husband.

STEVEN FALA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ing on Fifth Street, she charged the nonprofit \$75,000 a month. All the while, they say, she issued Junata checks to employees for services that were never provided so they could cash them and return the money to her.

"For those who depend on our nonprofits, the impact of the fraud is real and direct," said Philadelphia Inspector General Amy Kurland, whose office investigated the case along with the U.S. Attorney's Office, the FBI, and the IRS. "It's the best that's no longer available at a local shelter. It's the shattered-suspicious in a neighborhood that desperately needs

Her lawyer, Geoffrey R. Johnson, said he had not had a chance to review the indictment. The Junata clinic and the Tartaglione family have a long and tumultuous history with neighborhood politics and city and federal authorities.

Marge Tartaglione sat atop the city's election machinery as its tough-as-nails chairwoman of the City Commissioners for 36 years. She was ousted by voters in 2011, in part, because of her participation in the controversial DROP pension program.

Until 2010, Renee Tartaglione worked for her mother in the

News (<http://www.philly.com/news>)

## Ex-city worker pleads guilty to selling counterfeit SEPTA passes

Updated: MAY 9, 2016 — 3:59 PM EDT

by Tommy Rowan, STAFF WRITER

A former city employee pleaded guilty Monday to forging and selling fake SEPTA passes to City Hall workers, prosecutors said.

# Victims advocate now charged

Former support group executive accused of stealing \$15,000 in grant money.

By Julie Shaw  
STAFF WRITER

A former executive of a Philadelphia crime-victims support group has been charged with stealing more than \$15,000 in grant money and spending it on groceries, restaurant meals, gas, hotel stays, and college tuition, authorities said Wednesday.

Stephanie Mayweather, 52, the former executive director of East Division Crime Victim Services, was arrested Tuesday and charged with felony theft, the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office said.

After being arraigned Tuesday night before a Philadelphia magistrate, Mayweather, of Malvern, Pa.,

was released on her own recognizance.

State prosecutors said Mayweather misused public funds between January 2010 and May 2013 while working for the organization. They said she stole \$15,121.39 in grant money and used it to pay for items at grocery and convenience stores, restaurant meals, personal cellphone use, gas, parking, rental cars, and college tuition.

Mayweather was responsible for overseeing the daily operations of East Division Crime Victim Services, maintaining financial records and paying the organization's bills, prosecutors said. A review of a checking account

associated with the organization showed numerous charges unrelated to services for crime victims, authorities said.

Mayweather could not be reached for comment Wednesday. The attorney general's Bureau of Criminal Investigations conducted the investigation with the Philadelphia Office of the Inspector General.

Amy Kurland, the city's inspector general, said Mayweather began working as executive director of the victims group in 1998. She said she did not know when Mayweather left but said the agency, which had an office at 3300 N. Mascher St. in North Philadel-

phia, closed last summer.

Kurland said she did not know whether the investigation was a factor in the closure.

The group was started in 1993 to provide free services to crime victims in the 24th, 25th, and 26th Police Districts, which include Kensington, Port Richmond, Fishtown, and parts of Junata Park and Frankford. It received funding from the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

Victim services in that area are now provided by two other neighborhood groups, a police spokeswoman said.

Julie Rausch, the former executive director of the Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia and now its grant director, said Mayweather's group was one of seven neighborhood victim assistance groups in the city.

"I think this is definitely an aberration," Rausch said. "I would hate for the reputation of Philadelphia's victim-service organizations to be affected by this in a negative way."

A preliminary hearing for Mayweather is scheduled for May 25.

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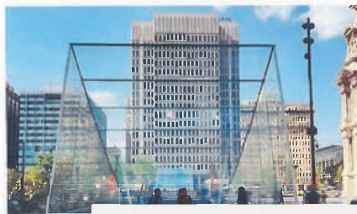
## NEWS + OPINION

NAVIGATION ▼

## Feds Charge Former Philadelphia L&I Employee With Attempted Extortion

Authorities say John Wright tried to extort money from a building contractor in 2015.

BY HOLLY OTTERBEIN | AUGUST 16, 2016 AT 11:57 AM



The Lioness &

The United States

## Polaneczky: Embezzled bucks could've helped kids

Updated: OCTOBER 6, 2016 — 10:45 AM EDT



arged with embezzling more than \$600,000 from the agency

ist  
nie@philly.com |  
@phillynews.com)



# NON-PROFIT CASES

The OIG continues to strengthen its non-profit oversight, working hard to protect funds that are designated for Philadelphia's most vulnerable communities. 2016 saw several partnerships with law enforcement and other authorities that resulted in impactful OIG investigations into nonprofit abuse. Non-profits accept a responsibility to give charitably with integrity, and the OIG will continue to demand the highest ethical standards from these organizations.

## **JUNIATA COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC**

A joint investigation by the OIG and FBI resulted in the indictment of Renee Tartaglione for allegedly stealing thousands of dollars from a facility that provides mental health services to Medicaid patients. According to the indictment, Tartaglione, while serving as president of JCMHC's Board of Directors, purchased the building where the clinic operated and then raised the rent repeatedly, from \$4,500 per month to \$25,000 per month. The indictment also identified a co-conspirator who allegedly used Tartaglione's company to purchase a second building that was also leased to JCMHC. Tartaglione allegedly made serious profit by leasing the buildings to her own entities.

## **EAST DIVISION CRIME VICTIM SERVICES**

The OIG partnered with the Attorney General's Office to investigate allegations that Stephanie Mayweather, former executive director of East Division Crime Victim Services, misused public money while working with the organization. East Division Crime Victim Services received funds from the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime

and Delinquency to provide free services to crime victims in the 24th, 25th and 26th Police Districts.

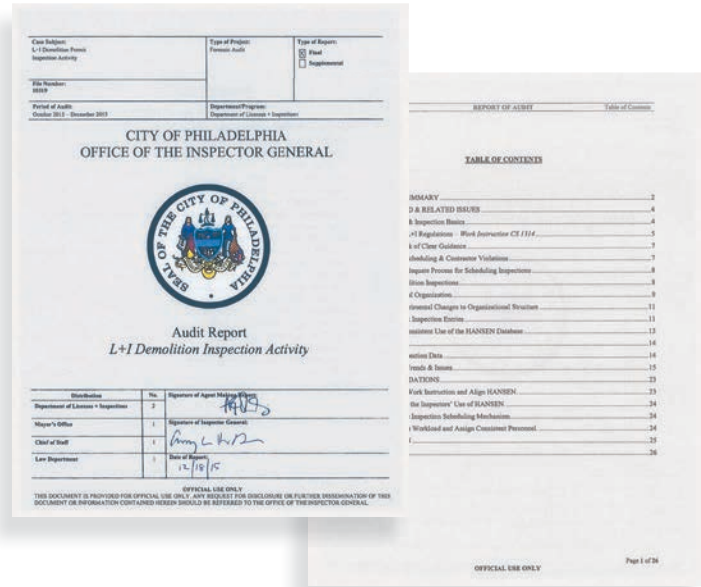
In May 2016, Mayweather was arrested and charged with felony theft for stealing more than \$15,000 in grant money that should have been used to support crime victims. She spent that money on groceries, restaurants, hotel stays, college tuition and other personal expenses.

## **NORTHERN CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

The OIG received a tip from a concerned resident who reported possible theft at Northern Children's Services (NCS), a non-profit that treats children suffering from trauma and behavioral disorders. Working side by side with federal authorities, the OIG uncovered a scheme where Sonja McQuillar, former director of health and information management at NCS, allegedly embezzled more than \$600,000 from the non-profit. According to the federal charges, she issued checks through her job to family, friends and agency contractors for work they did not perform. She allegedly forged signatures to cash the checks and pocketed the money herself.

# DEPARTMENTAL REFORM & POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

When instances of misconduct become patterns, the OIG helps create lasting change by prioritizing full-circle solutions over quick fixes. Where a violation has occurred, the OIG releases Reports of Investigation, which recommend corrective and disciplinary action to City departments, including termination. And where systemic problems are identified, the OIG issues Policy Recommendation.



## L+I DEMOLITION INSPECTION PROCESSES

In late 2015, a local newspaper reported deficiencies in the demolition inspection process at the Department of Licenses + Inspections. In response to these claims, the former Mayor directed the OIG to audit and review L+I's inspection activity.

The OIG examined 100 private demolition permits and interviewed every available inspector. The investigation established that L+I properly administered the demolition inspection process in only 22 percent of sampled permits. The OIG attributed the deficiencies in the demolition inspection process to misaligned internal standards, poor

distribution of work and faulty use of L+I's computer program. Acting on the OIG's recommendations, in 2016 L+I began to revise the demolition inspection process to include updated work instructions, more guidance and training for the inspectors and enhanced organizational stability.







## **WATER DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT PARTY**

After a television news report alleged that several Water Department employees used their City vehicles to attend a retirement party on City time, the OIG looked into the matter. The OIG issued a policy recommendation report regarding workday celebrations and the use of City vehicles, which was adopted and implemented by the City.

## **PENSION DISQUALIFICATION**

Many City employees earn a well-deserved pension upon retirement. However, those employees found guilty of job-related felonies are not entitled to such retirement privileges. Since January 2008, the OIG, the Law Department and the Board of Pensions have worked together to identify and disqualify those employees who have violated the public trust from receiving pensions. This year alone, the pension disqualification program saved more than \$4 million for the City's underfunded pension plan.



**IN PENSION SAVINGS**

## **PROACTIVE RESEARCH**

In addition to investigating complaints received by our office, the OIG also proactively reviews issues in order to surface potential problems. By identifying such problems at an early stage, the OIG can address any weaknesses, make recommendations or pursue wrongdoing before the problem progresses. In 2016, the OIG researched the City's non-profit vendors as well as property transfers from the Vacant Property Review Committee. These research projects offered valuable assistance to City officials who shared the OIG's commitment to prevention and due care.

## **MAIL PROCESSING CENTER**

With the OIG's input, the Revenue Department's Mail Center has instituted significant positive changes including organizational restructuring, placement of surveillance cameras in open areas, a workflow tracking system, updated locks and safety measures, a daily employment assignment system, additional equipment support services by a contracted vendor and the appointment of a new Chief Administrative Officer to assist with implementing the above changes.

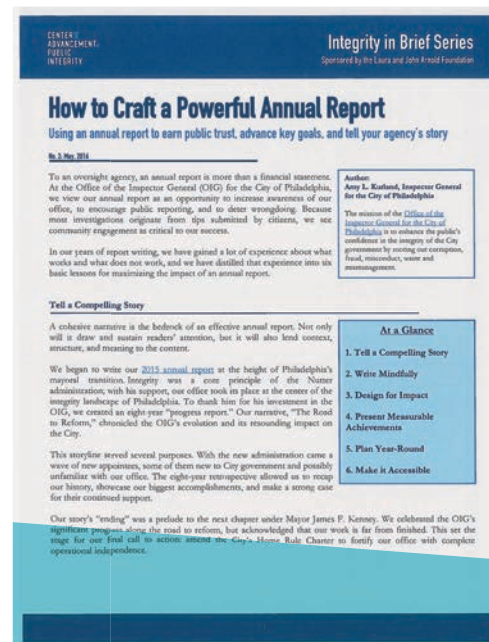
# COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

The OIG cannot accomplish its mission without active and open public participation from the members of our community. Because most of the OIG's cases originate from tips from members of the public and City employees, it is critical that we continue to increase awareness of the office – both to generate more investigative leads and to deter wrongdoing.

## CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEGRITY

In May, the OIG published a best-practices guide designed to help anti-corruption agencies maximize the impact of their annual report. The guide, "How to Craft a Powerful Annual Report: Using an annual report to earn public trust, advance key goals, and tell your agency's story," was published as an installment of Columbia Center for the Advancement of Public Integrity's (CAPI) Integrity in Brief Series, which features practice-oriented guides authored by anti-corruption scholars, practitioners and policymakers. The OIG was identified as the leading authority in annual report writing among all of CAPI's affiliated organizations.

Joined by the NY Department of Investigation (NYDOI), the OIG and CAPI teamed up again in December to observe National Anti-Corruption Day with an interactive Twitter campaign. All three agencies shared stories of triumph in the fight against corruption, using graphics and videos to depict their shared mission and encourage their followers to serve as allies.



## SPEAKING EVENTS

For years, the OIG has been an active participant in Citizen Diplomacy International – a non-profit organization that is focused on bringing engaged citizens together from all over the globe. Citizen Diplomacy is the “connector” to the Philadelphia community for international guests.

This year, as part of our commitment to the organization’s mission, the Inspector General met with delegates from China, Argentina, Cameroon and Venezuela. The OIG was also selected to welcome Debra Baptist-Estrada, Port Commander at the Department of Immigration in Belize and winner of the National Women of Courage Award.

Inspector General Amy Kurland was also the Keynote Speaker at the Philadelphia Area Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners 24th Annual All-Day Fraud Training Conference. She presented at the Community College of Philadelphia’s 2016 Law & Society Week, Philadelphia Municipal Court and Traffic Court, local colleges and universities, as well as the National Association of Inspectors General Fall Conference in Boston.



21



*Amy Kurland, Elizabeth Litten and Lauren McKenna of Fox Rothschild meet with Thelma Aldana, Attorney General of Guatemala and a 2016 winner of the National Women of Courage Award.*

A blue and yellow crane is lifting a red block with the letter 'S' from a stack of blocks spelling 'SCHOOL'. The stack consists of six blocks: 'S' (red), 'C' (yellow), 'H' (teal), 'O' (green), 'O' (red), and 'L' (blue). The crane is positioned on the left side of the image, and the blocks are stacked vertically in the center. The background is a solid light blue sky.

BUILDING ON  
OUR COMMITMENT  
TO INTEGRITY  
IN EDUCATION



## OIG AT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

This year was a seminal time of growth for the OIG at the School District. In 2015, the OIG entered into a memorandum of understanding with the District, and in 2016, we began to fill key positions with qualified personnel, created a file management system, established cooperative procedures for working with District departments and resources, started an investigative audit function and moved into newly constructed offices.

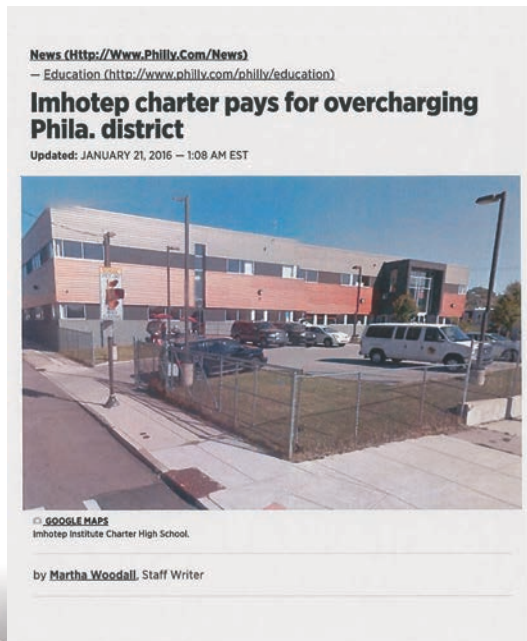
During this inaugural year, we reviewed and evaluated over 90 matters that came into the office, issued 10 reports of investigation and facilitated a settlement agreement with Imhotep Charter School involving inappropriate bills to the District.

Perhaps most notable, financial recoveries and savings on matters that were concluded in 2016 more than covered the 2016 investment in the office under the City OIG. These savings were accomplished in our initial year, with matters in the early stages of investigation, personnel not yet on board and significant time spent building the office. We anticipate that savings to the District will continue to grow as we approach full complement.

23







OIG investigations focused on important issues involving District processes and employee misconduct. Our recommendations covered a wide variety of substantive ground, including employee discipline for wrongdoing, process improvements and dissipation of assets from dissolving charter schools.

Investigations involving employee misconduct included theft of time, abuse of position and failure to follow District financial processes. These investigations also resulted in recommendations to review policies involving District procurement processes, cash management and compensatory and sick leave policies.

The office reviewed contracts totaling over \$38 million, including review of a multimillion-dollar real estate transaction involving a charter school that was referred to appropriate authorities to ensure that state law was properly followed involving public funds.

At the District OIG, we feel strongly that our work directly serves Philadelphia's school children. And, like the City at large, we believe that a quality education is built upon a foundation of integrity, honesty and transparency.







“THE SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION LOOKS FORWARD TO CONTINUED POSITIVE GROWTH IN OUR OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL. THE WORK OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL IS CRITICAL TO BUILDING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN THE INTEGRITY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA.”

— SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION CHAIR JOYCE S. WILKERSON



“THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL CONTINUES TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA. THE OFFICE PROVIDES OVERSIGHT, PROTECTS TAXPAYERS AND WORKS TO MAKE THE OPERATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MORE EFFICIENT.”

— DR. WILLIAM R. HITE, SUPERINTENDENT



PHILADELPHIA OFFICE OF THE  
**INSPECTOR GENERAL**

JIM F. KENNEY, MAYOR | AMY L. KURLAND, INSPECTOR GENERAL

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