



Illinois Ethics Matters

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Honesty, Integrity, Service

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies
of the Illinois Governor

Office of Executive Inspector General

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Announcements

- The OEIG is pleased to announce the hiring of **Charlotte Hogan** and **Anthony Lucchesi** as Assistant Inspectors General, and **Teodora Evtimova** as an Investigator.

HEM Issues 2025 Annual Report

The OEIG's Hiring & Employment Monitoring (HEM) Division recently released its annual report for calendar year 2025. The report showcases the OEIG's compliance and investigative work on State hiring. This past calendar year, HEM's work included the following activities, some of which reached record-high volumes:

- issuing 80 Advisories to 40 different agencies, marking an increase from last year's coverage record of 38 agencies;
- completing 58 desk audits of hiring sequences;
- handling 34 new complaint referrals;
- reviewing 400 exempt appointment notifications, the highest number to-date; and,
- assessing 119 exempt list modification requests, which is also a record high.

In addition to this 2025 compliance work in HEM, the OEIG's Investigative Division received a record number of hiring-related complaints—169. In 2025, the OEIG closed 19 investigations it opened on hiring-related issues, and issued two founded reports on misconduct related to hiring. In addition, two hiring-related reports (for Case Nos. [19-00042](#) and [19-02470](#)) were made available to the public during the year.

More details are available in the [HEM 2025 Fourth Quarter & Annual Report](#).

Publicly Released Hiring Investigation

In one of the hiring investigations released in 2025, the OEIG found that an Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) employee defrauded IDOC by falsifying employment and income information in order to obtain an improper salary adjustment and approximately \$40,038 in back wages. The adjustment was made based on the false claims that the employee was entitled to a salary increase because her CMS-100 listed an approximately \$1,000 weekly salary that originally had been considered as a monthly salary. As a result of the misrepresentations, the State suffered a loss of more than \$75,927.

The employee in question worked in human resources, had learned about the adjustment process, and would have had access to the relevant personnel records. Prior to obtaining the salary adjustment, the employee asked another IDOC employee via email to "not tell anyone" about the pending request because other IDOC employees may interfere. After obtaining the salary adjustment, the IDOC employee exclaimed in another email from her IDOC account: "I feel like I have hit the LOTTO!!!"

In response to the OEIG report, IDOC terminated the employee, and issued an oral reprimand to another employee for failing to take reasonable steps that the salary adjustment was properly supported. The [Case No. 19-00042](#) report provides more details of the investigation.