



INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2008-02-0043

December 22, 2009

BDDS CONTRACT

Inspector General Staff Attorney Amanda Schaeffer, after an investigation by Special Agent Mark Mitchell, reports as follows:

In February of 2008, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) received a complaint that a contractor submitted false information to the Bureau of Developmental Disability Services (BDDS) Division of the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA). Special Agent Mark Mitchell was assigned to investigate.

The defendant in 2007 attempted to contract with BDDS to provide Medicaid services in clients' homes by submitting an application and proposal. At that time, the FSSA Director of Provider Relations of BDDS identified several problems with the defendant's application, including his failure to reach the minimal financial requirement of a line of credit of at least \$35,000.

The FSSA Director informed the defendant of the requirement, and the defendant told her that he could not meet this requirement and asked her to lower it. The Director responded that the requirement could not be lowered.

Subsequently, the defendant submitted to BDDS a bank statement dated in

November of 2007 from a bank in Indianapolis, showing that he had a balance of approximately \$22,000. With other letters of credit submitted, this brought the defendant up to the \$35,000 requirement. This raised suspicion at BDDS since, a few days earlier, the defendant had told the FSSA Director that he was unable to meet the financial requirement.

The BDDS staff called the Indianapolis bank and learned that the defendant's account had been closed in October of 2005 and remained so. Special Agent Mitchell confirmed with the bank that the defendant's account was closed, and determined that the bank document showing the active balance of \$22,000 was a forgery.

The OIG is a law enforcement agency charged to investigate wrongdoing in the Executive Branch of state government, including wrongful acts that involve the providing of services by contractors. IC 4-2-7-3.

The investigation along with the documentation showing the submission of false documents to FSSA was presented to the Office of the Marion County Prosecuting Attorney, which filed on December 14, 2009 criminal charges of forgery under IC 35-43-5-2 and providing false information to obtain a government contract under IC 35-43-5-11. Accordingly, this investigation is closed.

Dated this 22nd day of December, 2009.

APPROVED BY:



David O. Thomas, Inspector General