



INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2008-02-0053

December 10, 2009

ICHDA FORGERY

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

In February of 2008, The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) reported that a Section 8 Housing Coordinator may have received fraudulent Section 8 benefits. Section 8 is a federally funded program designed to assist low income clients with housing costs. The program is administered through the IHCDA. Special Agent Charles Coffin was assigned.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is a law enforcement agency created to investigate wrongdoing in the Executive Branch of Indiana government. IC 4-2-7-3.

The investigation revealed that Defendant began employment with Human Services, Inc. (HSI) in January of 2005 as the Section 8 Housing Coordinator for a five-county region. HSI is a contractor that processes Section 8 benefits for the IHCDA.

In February of 2005, Defendant bought a home and reported this new address to her employer, HSI. In September of 2006, Defendant filed a preliminary application for Section 8 housing assistance and was placed on the Section 8 housing assistance list. In June of 2007, Defendant completed various forms as part of her Section 8 application, wrongfully stating that her brother was the owner of the property and that she was a tenant. In reality, Defendant and her former husband were the owners of the property.

The benefits were approved and payments began being issued to Defendant's brother in July of 2007.

Between July 2007 and January 2008, Defendant's brother was issued eight payments from HSI for Section 8 housing benefits. Defendant's brother deposited the payments into his bank account. Defendant's brother's wife then sent a check to Defendant for the amount of each Section 8 payment. The total amount wrongfully received in the scheme is \$3,387.08. This amount was re-paid by Defendant to the IHCD in August of 2008.

This case was presented to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney in Bartholomew County, and criminal charges were filed against Defendant.

Dated this 10th day of December, 2009.



David O. Thomas, Inspector General