



INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Lori Torres, Inspector General

OFFICE: INDIANA FAMILY AND SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (FSSA)
TITLE: FSSA THEFTS
CASE ID: 2019-02-0048
DATE: July 24, 2019

Inspector General Staff Attorney, Heidi Adair, after an investigation by Inspector General Director of Investigations, Darrell Boehmer, reports as follows:

The Indiana Office of Inspector General (OIG) investigates potential criminal activity and Code of Ethics violations within the executive branch of state government. Ind. Code § 4-2-7-3. The OIG is statutorily charged with recommending policies to deter, detect and eradicate fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement and misconduct in state government. Ind. Code § 4-2-7-3(2). The OIG also may advise an agency on implementing policies and procedures to prevent and reduce the risk of wrongful acts within an agency. Ind. Code § 4-2-7-3(8).

On February 21, 2019, an investigator with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) notified the OIG of a series of suspected thefts that had occurred at Larue D. Carter Memorial Hospital (Larue Carter). At this time, Larue Carter was one of the State's mental health hospitals under FSSA's Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA). The investigator said Larue Carter had experienced five thefts since January 2019, all during the evening shift. Additionally, the investigator said none of the thefts had been caught on camera, but many thefts occurred in places where only hospital staff had access.

OIG Director of Investigations and Special Agent Darrell Boehmer conducted the investigation into this matter. Director Boehmer obtained and reviewed incident reports concerning the thefts that occurred in the hospital during January and February 2019. It appeared

from these reports that the suspected thief primarily targeted FSSA employees. For example, there were a number of instances where employees reported cash missing from their offices.

Director Boehmer discussed with the FSSA investigator the various challenges surrounding this investigation, as there were no witnesses to the thefts or video surveillance capturing the thefts. Director Boehmer requested Larue Carter employee information that might show which employees were working during the time frame of the thefts so he could look for possible patterns; however, by the time Director Boehmer obtained this information and was prepared to conduct interviews, Larue Carter had permanently closed. Larue Carter's closure added to the existing challenges and further hindered the investigation.

The FSSA investigator has since relayed to Director Boehmer that the new hospital replacing Larue Carter has improved security measures and that the possibility of future thefts has been greatly reduced.

Overall, Director Boehmer was unable to identify the individual or individuals responsible for the thefts; therefore, the OIG is closing this case for insufficient cause. Although the OIG is closing this case for insufficient cause, the OIG may reexamine this evaluation should additional information be brought forward.

Dated: July 24, 2019

APPROVED BY:



Lori Torres, Inspector General