

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS
(Report No. I16-003)

DATE: December 21, 2015

TO: A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager

SUBJECT: Investigative Report:
Policy Issues – Department of Code Compliance

This report provides results of an investigation by the Office of the City Auditor (Office) of a complaint involving a Department of Code Compliance (CODE) Dallas Animal Services (DAS) Supervisor. The complaint alleges that the Supervisor was inexpensively selling prescription pet medication and a large quantity of pet supplies on her personal Facebook page and that these pet supplies were items that had been donated to DAS.¹

In February 2015, a City of Dallas (City) citizen (Complainant) forwarded the above allegation to DAS Management. The DAS Management reported these issues to the Dallas Police Department-Public Integrity Unit (DPD-PIU). The Complainant provided photographic evidence (screen shots of the Facebook page) of the DAS Supervisor's Facebook page to DPD-PIU. The DPD-PIU investigated the allegation, including an in-person interview with the DAS Supervisor. In the DPD-PIU interview, the DAS Supervisor claimed the pet supplies were from a pet grooming business she had previously owned. On June 11, 2015, DPD-PIU notified the Office that their investigation did not reveal a criminal offense was committed by the DAS Supervisor. The DPD-PIU forwarded the complaint to the Office for administrative review.

The Office reviewed the evidence gathered by DPD-PIU and obtained further evidence of its own. The evidence obtained revealed that the DAS Supervisor was selling prescription pet medication on her Facebook page and pet supplies with labels dated years after the pet grooming business closed. This evidence is sufficient to support the finding that the DAS Supervisor's actions violated City Personnel Rules, specifically: dishonesty and disregard of public trust.

The CODE reviewed the evidence and administrative review and concluded the employee's actions were in violation of City Personnel Rules related to dishonesty and disregard of the public trust. The employee was discharged from employment

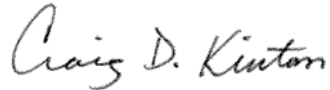
¹ City of Dallas' Administrative Directive 2-14: *Fraud, Waste and Abuse Procedures* directs the Office to report to the City Manager specified investigative audit findings.

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with the City effective December 16, 2015. The employee is entitled to appeal this action.

If you have any questions or would like to be briefed regarding this matter, please contact me at 214-670-3222 or Amy Messer, Assistant City Auditor, at 214-670-5347.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Craig D. Kinton".

Craig D. Kinton
City Auditor

C: Honorable Members of the Budget, Finance & Audit Committee
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Kris Sweckard, Director – Department of Code Compliance