

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS  
(Report No. I17-004)

DATE: December 16, 2016

TO: A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager

SUBJECT: Investigative Report:  
Abuse of Position – Office of Cultural Affairs

This report provides results of an investigation by the Office of the City Auditor (Office) of a complaint involving an Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) employee. The complaint alleges that the employee abused her position as a City of Dallas (City) employee to unfairly advance her private interests.<sup>1</sup>

On August 10, 2016, the Office was made aware of an OCA employee who was alleged to have abused her position as a City employee to unfairly advance her private interests. The employee, who worked at the South Dallas Cultural Center (SDCC), was alleged to have required a dry cleaning business to provide free cleaning services in return for the business' employees parking for free at the SDCC facility. The SDCC is a City-owned facility administered by the OCA. On August 15, 2016, the Office referred this matter to the Dallas Police Department – Public Integrity Unit (DPD-PIU) for a criminal investigation. On October 24, 2016, DPD-PIU contacted the Office with the outcome of their investigation and stated that they had found *“insufficient evidence to prove or disprove a criminal offense was committed”* by the employee. 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 is sufficient to support the finding that the OCA employee's actions violated the City's Personnel Rules and Code of Ethics, specifically: indifference towards work, dishonesty, disturbance and disregard of public trust, along with unfair advancement of private interests.

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<sup>1</sup> 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. Investigations by the Office are considered nonaudit projects under the Government Audit Standards and are conducted in accordance with Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation established by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners Code of Professional Ethics, and City Code.

OCA Management reviewed the Office's administrative investigation and concluded that the OCA employee's actions were in violation of the City's Personnel Rules and Code of Ethics. On November 15, 2016, OCA Management terminated the employment of the OCA employee.

If you have any questions or would like to be briefed regarding this matter, please contact me at 214-670-3222 or Doug O'Rourke, Assistant City Auditor, at 214-670-5265.

Sincerely,



Craig D. Kinton  
City Auditor

- C: Honorable Members of the Budget, Finance & Audit Committee  
Larry Casto, City Attorney  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Jennifer H. Scripps, Director – Office of Cultural Affairs  
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief of Ethics and Compliance