

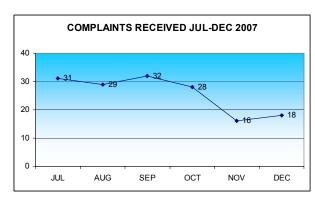
# Whistleblower Program 2007-08 Mid-Year Report

January 23, 2008

#### What's New With the Whistleblower Program?

The first half of FY 2007-08 saw a change in the way some complaints are submitted. Anyone wishing to submit a whistleblower complaint may now

file it over the phone by dialing 3-1-1 instead of the old 554-CITY number. 3-1-1 will record complaint and forward it directly to the Whistleblower Unit while maintaining confidentiality. By switching to 3-1-1 the Whistleblower Program can now receive calls by phone



24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year! Whistleblower complaints can still be submitted via web form on the Whistleblower website, fax, e-mail, and postal mail.

The Whistleblower Program received 154 complaints July 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007, and closed 142 complaints during the same period. 3-1-1 began taking calls at the end of October, 2007.

## Whistleblower Hotline 3-1-1 / TTY: 415-701-2323

Outside of area code 415: 415-701-2311 / TTY: 415-701-2323

#### **Online**

www.sfgov.org/whistleblower

## **E-mail** whistleblower@sfgov.org

#### **Postal mail**

Whistleblower Program c/o Controller City Hall – Room 316 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl. San Francisco, CA 94102

#### **Complaint Allegation**

#### Resolution



Allegation that a City employee driving a City

vehicle nearly hit and then threatened a bicyclist.

Complaint was found to have merit. Using a global positioning system (GPS) unit, which are included in some City vehicles, the department was able to identify the employee and take appropriate disciplinary action.



**Tip:** Submitting your contact info with your complaint will provide a means for the investigator to contact you if they have questions and relay the results of their investigation while maintaining your confidentiality.

### **Complaint Allegation**

#### Resolution

Allegation that a parking control officer failed to write street sweeping tickets for friends' cars.



Upon investigation the complaint was found to have merit. The parking control officer was disciplined, reminded of their duties, and transferred to another district.

Allegation that the San Francisco Fire Department failed to adequately compensate inspectors who worked overtime.

This complaint was found to have no merit. The employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement which, based on its provisions, supersedes the California Labor Code's overtime requirements.

Allegation that a Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) employee was working for his private business while on family medical leave. After an extensive investigation by the San Francisco Police Department and MTA it was determined that the complaint had merit. The employee was found to be in violation of City family medical leave policy and failing to file the required secondary employment request. The employee was disciplined accordingly.

Allegation that the executive director of a non-profit primarily funded by the Human Services Agency (HSA) was spending City funds on



personal items, failed to pay the organization's bills, such as employee health insurance premiums, and refused to submit documentation to auditors.

The complaint was found to have merit. The investigation unearthed additional violations, including bonuses and consulting fees paid to the director, fundraising expenses that exceeded fundraising revenues and additional income not reported on IRS form W-2. As a result of the investigation the City no longer funds this organization.



**3-1-1** is not just for whistleblower complaints. When you dial 3-1-1 (or 415-701-2311 if you are outside of area code 415), you will be connected with a representative who will take complaints and requests for information regarding general City services, and will assist with non-emergency City and County of

San Francisco government matters. 3-1-1 is available in over 175 languages and offers TTY access. Visit <a href="https://www.sfgov.org/311">www.sfgov.org/311</a> for more information.