



INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2010-01-0005

June 25, 2012

COMMISSION ON HISPANIC/LATINO AFFAIRS USE OF STATE PROPERTY

Inspector General Staff Attorney Todd Shumaker, after an investigation by Special Agent Chuck Coffin, reports as follows:

On January 6, 2010, the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Commissioner informed the Office of Inspector General (OIG) that Patricia Sanchez, the Executive Director of the Indiana Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs (Commission), had been terminated for failing to observe state procurement guidelines.

OIG Special Agent Chuck Coffin was assigned and conducted interviews, reviewed documents, issued warrants, and found the following.

In addition to the procurement issues, SA Coffin also discovered Sanchez appeared to have taken property belonging to the Commission and DWD when she was terminated, including a Toshiba Television/DVD combo, a black luggage cart, and a Dymo Letra handheld label maker. These items had last been seen in Sanchez's possession and could not be accounted for by the Commission or DWD after her departure. OIG special agents executed a search warrant on March 25,

2010 at Sanchez's apartment and recovered these items along with a brown bag surrendered by Sanchez that contained a USB cable for use with her state-issued Blackberry she had taken from DWD facilities.

The investigation was submitted to the State Ethics Commission which voted in favor of finding probable cause to support an ethics complaint against Sanchez for violating 42 IAC 1-5-12 on May 12, 2011. A public hearing was conducted thereafter. The respondent did not appear at the public hearing but was represented by counsel. After the presentation of evidence and arguments by both parties, the State Ethics Commission determined the complaint had been proved and sanctioned Sanchez with a bar from future employment with the State of Indiana.

Dated this 25th day of June, 2012.

APPROVED BY:

/s/ David O. Thomas, Inspector General