



## INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2011-04-0146

September 6, 2012

### SPD DEPENDENT AUDIT INVESTIGATION

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

Throughout 2011, the State Personnel Department (SPD) forwarded to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) a series of complaints alleging possible insurance fraud that arose out of a Dependent Eligibility Verification Audit (Audit) by SPD. Among those complaints was one against an Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) employee (Employee), whose son was potentially ineligible based on his status as a student.<sup>1</sup>

The OIG is charged by the Indiana Legislature to address fraud, waste and abuse in state agencies. IC 4-2-7-2(b). In so doing, the OIG is instructed to supervise and coordinate investigations. IC 4-2-7-3(1).

OIG Special Agent Chuck Coffin was assigned to investigate. Special Agent Coffin learned from Employee that she was unable to obtain the enrollment

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<sup>1</sup> At the time of the Audit, SPD policy allowed unmarried dependent children to remain eligible dependents on the State's benefits plans until the end of the calendar year in which they turned 23, provided they were full-time students enrolled in an educational institution. Unmarried dependent children who did not maintain full-time student status became ineligible at the end of the calendar year in which they turned 19.

information from the college her son attended since the institution would not release them to her. Furthermore, Employee's son was unable to obtain the records himself since he was incarcerated at the time. Employee was advised by an insurance representative to wait until she returned from extended leave for knee surgery to resolve the matter. Employee was suspended by IDOC for five days for failing to supply the enrollment documentation for her son and entered into a repayment arrangement with the State.

Finding no basis for criminal charges, Special Agent Coffin advises the investigation be closed at this time. Should additional evidence be brought forward, this case may be evaluated for further action. At this time and for these reasons, this case is closed.

Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012.

APPROVED BY:

/s/ David O. Thomas, Inspector General