MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT

66 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0066

TEL: (207) 624-6250 FAX: (207) 624-6273

RICHARD H. FOOTE, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

MARY GINGROW-SHAW, CPA
SINGLE AUDIT COORDINATOR

MICHAEL J. POULIN, CIA
DIRECTOR OF AUDIT and ADMINISTRATION

Honorable John Elias Baldacci Governor of the State of Maine

Honorable Elizabeth H. Mitchell President of the Senate

Honorable Hannah M. Pingree Speaker of the House

MAINE STATE AUDITOR'S FRAUD HOTLINE

http://www.maine.gov/audit/fraud/fraud.htm

December 2009 Semi-annual Report Period - 7/01/09 to 12/31/09

Total number of complaints received: 12

Complaint sequence: Complaints 18 to 29

Number of referrals of fraud or other criminal conduct to the Attorney General: 2

Number of referrals of agency performance issues to the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability: 0

Number of investigations by the State Auditor: Opened: 12

Completed/Closed: 12

Complaints about private individuals referred (some to more than one agency): 10

Referred to Maine Revenue Services: 3

Referred to Fraud Investigation and Recovery Unit of DHHS (FIRU): 2

Referred to Child Support Enforcement of DHHS: 1

Referred to Department of Labor Unemployment: 1

Referred to Department of Professional and Financial Regulation: 1

Referred to Maine State Housing: 1

Referred to US Social Security Administration Office of Inspector General: 1

Complaint #18

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged private contractor fraud in home renovation.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable.

Recommended action: Referred to Attorney General's Office. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: Not applicable. Private matter referred to Department of the Attorney General and Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

Complaint #19

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged possible income tax evasion by others.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable. The subjects of complaint are individuals, not State government.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable. Tax revenues might be recovered.

Recommended action: Referred to Maine Revenue Services for investigation. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: To be determined by Maine Revenue Services. Matter involves private individuals, not State government.

Complaint #20

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged private contractor fraud in home renovation and inadequate help from quasi-governmental agency with respect to home repair grant.

Office, bureau, or division within department or agency that is subject of complaint: Kennebec Valley Community Action Program (KVCAP); private contractor.

Determination of potential cost savings: None, because no fraud or collusion was found.

Recommended action: Referred to Maine Housing internal auditor for investigation. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: Maine Housing determined that complaint was not substantiated.

Complaint #21

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged income tax evasion and rent refund program fraud by a private individual.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable. Tax revenues and/or grant funds may be recovered.

Recommended action: Referred to Maine Revenue Services. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: To be determined by Maine Revenue Services. Matter involves private individual, not State government.

Complaint #22

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged attempted identity theft by telephone.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable.

Recommended action: Complainant given information about preventing fraud attempted by telephone. Complainant referred to Attorney General's Office. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: Not applicable.

Complaint #23

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged Medicaid and food stamp fraud and tax evasion by a private individual but failed to give specific information for investigation.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable.

Recommended action: Complainant was given information to contact investigation units responsible in each area of complaint. Case closed by Maine Audit

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: Insufficient facts to determine.

Complaint #24

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged fraud by an individual receiving aid from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable. Assistance funds may be recovered.

Recommended action: Referred to Department of Health and Human Services Fraud Investigation and Recovery Unit (FIRU) for investigation. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: To be determined by FIRU at Maine Department of Health and Human Services. Matter involves private individuals.

Complaint #25

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged fraudulent application for and receipt of social security disability income.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable. Tax revenues and disability income may be recovered from private individual.

Recommended action: Referred to the Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in Boston, MA for investigation. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: To be determined by OIG of the Social Security Administration. Matter involves private individual.

Complaint #26

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged possible food stamp fraud by individual posting "housing wanted" on Craig's List.

Office, bureau, or division within department or agency that is subject of complaint: Not applicable. Subject of complaint is a private individual.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable. Funds could be recovered if fraud is found.

Recommended action: Referred to Fraud Investigation and Recovery Unit (FIRU) of Department of Health and Human Services. Case closed by Maine Audit

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: Not applicable. Subject of complaint is a private individual.

Complaint #27

Nature of Complaint: Complainant submitted a name, address and telephone number without other information or facts.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable.

Recommended action: Insufficient information to review. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: Not applicable.

Complaint #28

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged attempted internet email identity and bank theft fraud without giving a specific instance of fraud.

Office, bureau, or division of department that is subject of complaint: Not applicable.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable.

Recommended action: Complainant did not allege that fraud actually occurred. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: Not applicable.

Complaint #29

Nature of Complaint: Complainant alleged tax evasion, unemployment compensation fraud and non-payment of child support by private individual.

Office, bureau, or division within department or agency that is subject of complaint: Not applicable. Subject of complaint is a private individual.

Determination of potential cost savings: Not applicable. Tax revenues, unemployment compensation and child support could be recovered.

Recommended action: Referred to Maine Revenue Services, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Labor for investigation. Case closed by Maine Audit.

Statement as to degree complaint has been substantiated: To be determined by Maine Revenue Services, investigators at the Department of Health and Human Services and at the Department of Labor. Matter involves private individual, not State government.