



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

AUDITOR - CONTROLLER • TREASURER - TAX COLLECTOR

James P. Erb, CPA *Auditor-Controller • Treasurer-Tax Collector*

James W. Hamilton, CPA *Assistant Auditor-Controller • Treasurer-Tax Collector*

**Whistleblower Hotline Report
As of September 30, 2017**

The San Luis Obispo County Whistleblower Hotline was established in November 2013 to provide a mechanism by which employees and citizens may contribute to the accountability, transparency, and responsibility of the County by reporting financial fraud, waste, and abuse. From the hotline's inception in November 2013 through September 30, 2017 the Whistleblower Hotline received 108 reports.

The Whistleblower Hotline includes a toll-free hotline number (855-326-9623) and website (reportlineweb.com/sanluisobispo) which are accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are administered by an independent hotline provider. Reports may be submitted anonymously.

Reports received are reviewed by the County's Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector and the Internal Auditor Manager in conjunction with County Counsel, Human Resources, and Department Heads, as appropriate.

11 complaints were received in the Fiscal Year 2017-18 1st quarter ending September 30, 2017.

The 1st quarter reports received related to the following categories:

- Employee Misconduct (3)
- Safety/Sanitation (3)
- Non-County Operations (2)
- Violation of Federal Law (1)
- Violation of County Ordinances (1)
- Welfare Fraud (1)

The disposition of the nine County-related cases includes:

- Seven were referred to the Department Heads
- One was referred to County Counsel
- The Welfare Fraud complaint was referred to the Department of Social Services



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In the prior quarter ending June 30, 2017 two cases were still in the follow-up process. The two cases were substantiated in the current quarter and resolved as follows:

- A complaint was received regarding use of software without appropriate licenses. The County purchased the appropriate licenses.
- A complaint was received regarding inappropriate use of proceeds from recycling salvage materials. The Department Head worked with the Human Resources Department to address the issue.

The San Luis Obispo County Whistleblower Program improves controls and promotes accountability and oversight throughout the County through the identification of potential fraud, waste, and abuse.