



CITY OF OAKLAND
Office of the City Auditor



INDEPENDENT CITY AUDITOR. REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THE RESIDENTS.

Office of the City Auditor Update

May 5, 2022

Whistleblower Program Annual Report Released

This week my Office released our Annual Whistleblower Report (Report) covering Fiscal Year 2020-21 (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021).

Notably, 214 complaints were filed in FY 2020-21, including allegations of misuse of City assets, wage theft, and larceny. A total of 238 cases were closed and 85, or 36 percent, were closed after an investigation.

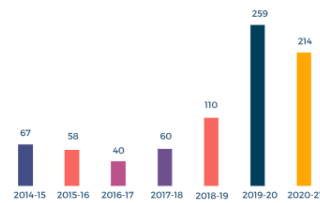
The Report provides details about the whistleblower investigation process, the number and types of allegations submitted, the characteristics of the whistleblowers, the allegations that warranted investigation, and concludes with a summary of the investigation outcomes and actions taken.

Read the entire Report via the link below and learn more about our Whistleblower Program in the last section of this newsletter.

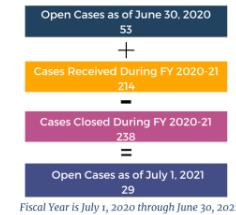
Whistleblower Program Summary Report

FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

Whistleblower Allegations Submitted Between Fiscal Years (FY) 2014-15 and 2020-21



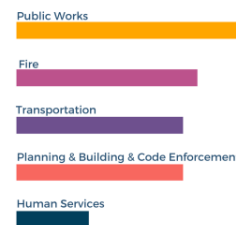
Whistleblower Allegations During FY 2020-21



Top Five Allegation Types In FY 2020-21



Top Five Departments Subject to Whistleblower Allegations



[The Whistleblower Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020-21](#)

ALGA's Lifetime Achievement Award Goes To... Mike Edmonds!



This week, at the Association of Local Government Auditors' (ALGA) 34th Annual Conference, Mike Edmonds, my former Assistant City Auditor, received ALGA's Lifetime Achievement Award! Mike, a Certified Internal Auditor, with a 40-plus-year career in auditing, has made invaluable contributions to the profession, ALGA, and the various jurisdictions he has served.

I've worked with Mike for fifteen years, and during this time, he has been my Assistant City Auditor three times. In 2007, he helped me transform a failed auditor's office (Oakland City Auditor's Office was the first office to fail an ALGA peer review) into one producing award-winning audits. Since 2007, the Office has received three Knighton Awards, most recently for our [Performance Audit of the Oakland Police Commission and the Community Police Review Agency](#) issued on June 1, 2020.

When Mike announced he would finally be retiring, I said to him with full conviction, "we are all better because of you." My Team and I are honored to have worked beside, and learn from, such an exceptional professional—there is no one more deserving of an ALGA Lifetime Achievement Award than Mike!

[Learn More About This Prestigious Award](#)

Critical Appointment Public Ethics Commissioner

I am honored to appoint [Francis Upton IV](#) as a Member of the Public Ethics Commission. Francis is an accomplished Chief Technology Officer with a history of building sophisticated solutions for difficult problems. He is passionate about improving residents' access to data, transparency, and accountability in government. I am confident he will discharge his responsibilities as a Commissioner with the highest level of integrity, while working to ensure fairness, openness, and honesty in Oakland's City government.



I want to thank everyone who applied -- your desire to serve our City is admirable and it was a pleasure to get to know you during the process.

Public Ethics Commission Members

We Need Your Feedback Equal Access Language Survey



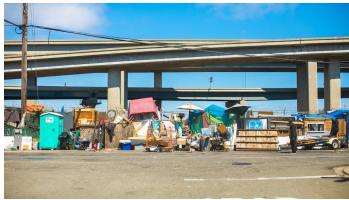
The City of Oakland passed an Equal Access to Services Ordinance to remove language barriers that limited-English speakers encounter when using City services.

The City is conducting a city-wide survey to determine whether departments are providing the same level of services to limited-English speaking persons.

Please help us by answering the few questions on this survey and indicate in the last section, "the department or location you visited today," - **Office of the City Auditor**. You can access the survey by scanning the QR code pictured to the left or by clicking the link below. Thank you in advance for your help.

Equal Access Language Survey

Update Audits in Progress



The following audits are in progress:

- 1. Homeless Services:** The Office is wrapping up its second audit focused on homelessness in Oakland. The audit seeks to quantify the number of people placed in different shelter and housing types and the number of those receiving other homeless services; evaluate the performance of select contracted shelter and service providers; identify disparities in how City-provided shelters and related services are provided to various homeless subpopulations; and review the coordination and partnerships of agencies engaged in addressing homelessness in Oakland.
- 2. The City of Oakland's Building Permitting Process Audit Series:** The objectives of this audit series are to 1) evaluate the internal controls over building permit fee processes; 2) evaluate building fees' alignment with the City's Municipal Code, State Law, and leading practices; and 3) identify the drivers of the surplus in the City's Development Services Fund.
- 3. Recommendation Follow-Up:** The Office is wrapping up its inaugural recommendation follow-up process, which entails identifying all the relevant open audit recommendations made by the Office since 2010, determining the status of the recommendations (implemented vs. partially implemented vs. not implemented), and publicly reporting findings.
- 4. Measures M and N:** The purpose of these mandated audits is to determine whether internal controls over revenue from voter-approved Measures M and N are in place and effective, and whether proceeds were properly disbursed as prescribed in the legislation. The scope of the audit includes Fiscal Years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21.

Recently Released Reports

Committed to serving you with the utmost integrity,

COURTNEY RUBY, CPA, CFE
CITY AUDITOR



SUBMIT A COMPLAINT TO OUR WHISTLEBLOWER PROGRAM

This confidential hotline is for employees and residents to report **fraud**, **waste**, and **abuse** in the City of Oakland. Available 24/7.

(888) 329-6390

[Submit Online](#)



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