

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Office of the Inspector General**



Inspector General

February 28, 2006

The Honorable Anthony A. Williams  
Mayor  
District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Mayor's Correspondence Unit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite 221  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT**

Dear Mayor Williams:

This report is to inform you of an investigation conducted by Special Agent William Redden, Jr., D.C. Office of the Inspector General (OIG), concerning Gregory Parrish, a former Job Coach employed in the Welfare to Work Project Empowerment (WWPE) section of the Department of Employment Services.

In 2001, Parrish placed WWPE participants in subsidized positions at the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA). After a participant was hired as a full-time, unsubsidized employee by DCRA, Parrish entered into a scheme with the participant to continue submitting the participant's timesheets through the WWPE while the participant was being paid simultaneously as a full-time, unsubsidized DCRA employee. Parrish and the participant then split the WWPE checks.

In November, a jury in the District of Columbia Superior Court returned a guilty verdict against Parrish on four misdemeanor counts of violating the District's False Claims Act and four misdemeanor counts of Committing Fraud in Obtaining Public Assistance. The Honorable Harold L. Cushenberry, Jr., sentenced Parrish on January 20, 2006, to 8 years imprisonment. In addition, Judge Cushenberry ordered Parrish to serve 200 days of that time, with the remaining time suspended, and 4 years of probation. Parrish must pay \$910.00 in restitution, \$50.00 to the Victims Assistance Fund, and perform 200 hours of community service.

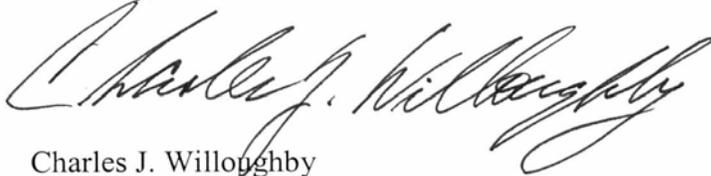
The Honorable Anthony A. Williams  
Mayor of the District of Columbia  
February 28, 2006  
Page 2

At the time of Parrish's arrest, he was enrolled as a recruit in the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Academy. Following his conviction, Parrish was terminated from MPD on November 26, 2005.

The DCRA employees who participated in the scheme, Africa Anderson and Carole McDowney, each entered a guilty plea to one count of Committing Fraud in Obtaining Public Assistance. Anderson was sentenced to 45 days incarceration (suspended), 18 months probation, and was ordered to pay \$2,000 in restitution. McDowney received no jail time, but was ordered to pay \$1,300 in restitution.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to call me or Victoria Lucchesi, Deputy General Counsel/Acting Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, on (202) 727-2540. When calling, please reference OIG Control Number 2002-0268.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles J. Willoughby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "C".

Charles J. Willoughby  
Inspector General

CJW/wtr