

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Inspector General

Inspector General



September 28, 2009

The Honorable Adrian M. Fenty
Mayor
District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mayor's Correspondence Unit, 2nd Floor, Suite 316
Washington, D.C. 20004

RE: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT


Dear Mayor Fenty:

This report is to inform you of the recent sentencing of Sonia Coleman, former Payroll Specialist, District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA), who stole \$236,256.17 of WASA's payroll funds. On May 4, 2009, Mrs. Coleman entered a plea of guilty to Interstate Transportation of Stolen Monies. On September 16, 2009, Mrs. Coleman was sentenced to 24 months in prison, 36 months of supervised release, and ordered to pay \$230,315.00 in restitution.

The investigation, which was conducted by Special Agent (SA) Van McMillan and SA Teddy Clark, D.C. Office of the Inspector General, and SA Mary Gleason, Federal Bureau of Investigation, revealed that between May 2006 and January 2008, during the performance of her official duties, Mrs. Coleman used her access to WASA's payroll processing system to create additional checks for approximately 40 WASA employees who had been terminated, were on sick leave, on leave without pay status, or absent without leave. She then altered the employees' direct deposit information so that money from the additional checks would be deposited into accounts she controlled or to which she had access.

If you need any additional information, please call me or Stacie Pittell, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 727-2540. When calling, please reference OIG Control Number 2008-0191.

Sincerely,


Charles J. Willoughby
Inspector General

CJW/vm