

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

City of Albuquerque

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Melissa Santistevan Inspector General

**Date:** April 6, 2022

**FILE NO: 22-0023** 

**SUBJECT:** City Museum Employee: Employee timecard fraud, earning degree during working

hours

**STATUS:** Complete

**INVESTIGATOR:** J.S.

## **Informative Case Synopsis:**

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) received an anonymous complaint on February 11, 2022 though the OIG online Tip and Reporting Form. The complaint alleged that an employee of a City Museum was spending work hours earning his degree and that other staff were completing his work while this was occurring.

Pursuant to City Ordinance 2-17-2, the Inspector General's goals are to: (1) Conduct investigations in an efficient, impartial, equitable and objective manner; (2) Prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse in city activities including all city contracts and partnerships; (3) Deter criminal activity through independence in fact and appearance, investigation and interdiction; and (4) Propose ways to increase the city's legal, fiscal and ethical accountability to insure that tax payers' dollars are spent in a manner consistent with the highest standards of local governments.

A fact-finding investigation was initiated which included a review of City of Albuquerque (City) policies and procedures regarding education; interviews of staff; review of the time management system and human resource files of the alleged subject; and discussions with the City Employee Learning Staff.

Based on the fact-finding investigation of the matter to include interviews with all staff in the department, discussions with City Employee Learning Center and a review of the documentation, the allegation that an employee was pursuing a degree on city time are not substantiated aside from those hours that were approved through the educational leave process.