

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

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October 28, 2019

To: Michael Centola, Office of the Inspector General

Re: Report of Investigation 17-0004-I

Dear Mr. Centola:

This is to confirm receipt of your investigation referenced above, "Allegation that Health Department employee Mara Hahn personally benefited from the submission of a \$4,000 invoice dated May 26, 2017 for food and supplies purchased by the Conrad Park Booster Club for the Hollygrove Family Fest held on May 13, 2017." NOHD leadership has reviewed the report and its finding that "(Former NOHD employee Mara) Hahn may have violated La. R.S. 42:1112, Participation in Certain Transactions Involving the Governmental Entity by purchasing food for the Hollygrove Family Festival and arranging with the CPBC to be reimbursed once the CPBC received payment from the City."

As noted, Ms. Hahn is no longer an employee with NOHD or the City.

We also agree with the recommendation that NOHD employees receive training on the City's procurement process and have begun implementation. Our Fiscal Coordinator has prepared a presentation on Procurement that aligns with the latest CAO policy, and has started to provide the training to our programs. We plan to present this information at our next all staff meeting so that every employee at NOHD receives it.

Please contact me should you have any questions or need further information. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Avegno, MD  
Director of Health, City of New Orleans  
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