OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS



For Immediate Release: July 11, 2012

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REPORT OF INQUIRY

The City of New Orleans Inspector General (OIG) today released a report of inquiry concerning the New Orleans Municipal Court Administrative Judge's and the Orleans Parish Sheriff's retention of each other's spouses as consultants.

The OIG was unable to substantiate whether or not these transactions were related. The inquiry found no evidence of criminal behavior; both officials had legal authority for the actions they took. But these actions took place barely a month apart, and created an appearance of impropriety that leads citizens to believe that the criminal justice system is corrupt and diminishes confidence in government in general.

Inspector General Ed Quatrevaux said, "Legality is an essential baseline but an insufficient standard for elected officials. The public deserves diligence in selecting consultants."

The report is attached to this press release. Other reports issued by the Office of Inspector General can be viewed and downloaded from the website at <u>http://www.nolaoig.org</u>.