

CITY OF HOUSTON

INTER OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Anthony W. Hall, Jr.
Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: M. A. Dirden, Inspector General
Office of Inspector General

DATE: March 4, 2006

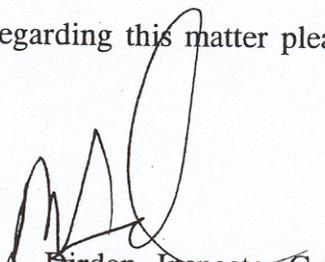
SUBJECT: **OIG COMPLAINT 06-100**

This is to advise you that the Office of Inspector General has completed its investigation of allegations made by Judy Gray Johnson, Director, Finance and Administration, City of Houston. Johnson alleged that four employees assigned to the Office of Mayor Pro Tem might have engaged in improper/illegal conduct. Specifically, Johnson alleged that Division Manager, Rosita Hernandez, employee #104223; Administrative Coordinator, Florence Watkins, employee #86401; Administrative Specialist, Christopher Mays, employee #113805; and Administrative Assistant, Theresa Orta, employee #103309, received unusually large and frequent incentive pay bonuses totaling \$143,500 for the period of November 2004 to January 2006, and multiple salary increases for the period of November 2004 to February 2005.

Investigators reviewed payroll data, computer records, email accounts, and other records during the course of the investigation. In addition, statements were obtained from several current and former City of Houston employees and District I Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem, Carol Alvarado.

The investigation revealed sufficient evidence to conclude that the four employees in fact received incentive bonuses and/or salary increases that were not approved or obtained in accordance with existing city policy and rules. As is customary in cases involving this type of misconduct this matter has been referred to the Harris County District Attorney's Office for review and consideration.

Should you desire additional information or assistance regarding this matter please call me at 713 308-1590.



M. A. Dirden, Inspector General
Office of Inspector General

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CC: Judy Gray Johnson, Director, Finance and Administration Department
Susan T. Taylor, Deputy City Attorney, Legal Department