



Office of Executive Inspector General
for the Agencies of the Illinois Governor

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Written Testimony

Illinois House of Representatives
House Sexual Discrimination and Harassment Task Force
January 11, 2018
Chicago, IL

Chairperson Barbara Flynn Currie, Republican Spokesperson Sara Wojcicki Jimenez, and members of the House Sexual Discrimination and Harassment Task Force, thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony. My name is Maggie Hickey and I am the Executive Inspector General for the Office of Executive Inspector General for the agencies of the Illinois Governor (OEIG).

The Task Force has requested information about the OEIG's Equal Employment Opportunity Office's (EEOO) process. This statement will provide information about our EEOO's process, and how that process is separate and distinct from our Investigations Division.

The OEIG is an independent, non-partisan agency responsible for conducting investigations of fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement, as well as conducting other statutory duties related to enforcement and compliance. Our Office has four main functions: 1) investigations; 2) ethics training; 3) revolving door determinations; and 4) hiring and employment monitoring.

The Investigations Division investigates allegations related to **external entities under our jurisdiction, not OEIG employees**. The OEIG's jurisdiction includes over 170,000 State employees, appointees, and officials, the nine State public universities, and the four Chicago-area regional transit boards (RTA, CTA, Metra, Pace), as well as vendors that do business with those entities. If a complaint is filed against an individual under our jurisdiction, including a complaint related to sexual harassment, and we open it for investigation, our Investigations Division is the division to address the allegation. The OEIG's EEO Officer would not be involved in investigating those complaints.

The OEIG has an EEO Officer that reports directly to me on matters of equal employment and affirmative action related to the employees of my Office. The EEO Officer ensures that the OEIG complies with the procedures and requirements of the Illinois Department of Human Rights regulations related to equal employment opportunities. The EEO Officer also conducts investigations of **internal complaints involving OEIG employees** related to sexual harassment and alleged discriminatory practices on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, disability, national origin, ancestry, marital status, military status, retaliation, and sexual orientation. Public Act 100-0554 (Senate Bill 402), does not change our EEO process.

Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony. I commend you for working to combat sexual discrimination and harassment and look forward to working with you to address these important issues.