

Abasse Tall, CPA

6500 South Kenwood Ave

Chicago, IL 60637

H: 773-493-0397

C: 773-757-3433

Special Investigative Committee
Of the Ninety Fifth General Assemble
Illinois House of Representatives
Springfield, Illinois

VIA FACSIMILE (217) 524-1794

Monday, January 05, 2009

RE: Illegal Hiring, Promotion, Firing, Retaliation
Race discrimination and Abuse of Power

Dear Members of the Special Investigative Committee:

1. I commenced my employment with the State of Illinois ("the State") on or about September 15, 2003 and continued to be employed by the State until May 22, 2008 when my employment at DCFS was suddenly and without warning terminated for a clearly false, pretextual, and retaliatory reason - with there being extensive evidence showing this. This is described in greater detail in my prior written request for hearing to the commission and letter of appeal to DCFS (letters dated 05/15/08, 06/03/08, 06/17/08 and 06/19/08)

2. The State, by and through Erwin McEwen (DCFS Director) terminated my employment allegedly on the basis that I allegedly was in a 4d3 Exempt Classification (which apparently means that such employees are political hires, and can be fired at will rather than having civil service protection) - although in fact I was not in that classification and I had even previously successfully disputed that I was in that category (letter 10/19/2005).

3. While working as a Senior Analyst, I became aware that ISBE management increased ISBE budget substantially (around 29 millions) after the board of Director submitted the fiscal year budget to the General Assemble and the Governor. I reported such act of improper government activity to my supervisor Ginger Ostro, and when she failed to act I reported to her boss John Filan. I also reported to the EOIG.

4. In or about September 2004 I complained to my supervisor, Ginger Ostro of violating of Title VII of Human Right Act as amended, of race discrimination. More specifically, I complained that Marina Wass, Margaret Green and Ronny Wickenhauser (all similarly situated white employees with less qualifications than me) were promoted at GOMB, while I was, in effect, demoted.

5. Shortly thereafter, in or about November, 2004, I was promoted to the position of Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") for the State's Office of the State Fire Marshal ("OSFM") - with this promotion occurring only following my complaining of the aforesaid race discrimination. During the time I worked at the OSFM I was a very hard worker, who continued to strive to do a good job on behalf of the people of the state of Illinois despite repeated irregularities in my promotion and in the face of repeated obstacles that were placed in my way, which call into question the sincerity and the legality of the "promotion" and whether it was instead a covert attempt to deflect attention from the prior discrimination and retaliation committed against me and to make my working conditions so difficult that I would be constructively forced from my employment.

6. While working as a chief financial Officer at the State Fire Marshal I became aware that a retiree employee was getting paid, the General Counsel was attempting to change the outcome of the audit and other dubious accounting issues going on. I reported them to the State fire Marshal JT Somer and John Filan then, budget Director of the State of Illinois and latter to the EOIG.

7. I continued to work at the OSFM until May 19, 2005, when I was forcibly (and threateningly) removed from my office and position at the OSFM, approximately one week following my having sent a May 11, 2005 e-mail (to the State Fire Marshall and his Deputy Director) complaining of race discrimination and racial harassment. I was sent to Louanner Peters and Victor Robinson at the Governor's Office.

The 2006 EOIG report mentioned that there was one GOMB complaint investigated and this complaint was determined to be well-founded. **The findings were under the classification of Unethical behaviors / Practices which include retaliation and others.** These findings confirm the retaliatory process that lead to my wrongful termination.

As it appears in the EOIG report ages #11 &13

	Complaints investigated	complaints founded
DCFS	9	2
OSFM	3	2
GOMB	1	1

On December 12, 2008 I requested a FOIA to the OEIG and my request was denied on December 17, 2008.

On October 03, 2008 I requested a copy of my personal file from OSFM, GOMB and DCFS.

As of today 01/04/09 I did not receive a copy of my personal file from DCFS and GOMB. DCFS did not respond and GOMB is asking for more time. Another form of denial.

I noticed that in the my personal file sent by OSFM, the paperwork reflecting and recording the GOMB to OSFM transfer does not meet the personnel action request (PAR) requirements set forth in the Personnel Code. There is no e-PAR, and no approval of (Deputy chief of staff of Governor- Governor's personnel office-State Marshal-GOMB-CFO-HR).

Amidst the findings of the EOIG, figure RETALIATION. Therefore, what is the legality of a transfer, a promotion, a job offer, which is in violation of federal and state law? Retaliation is a violation of federal and state law.

Moreover, the paperwork reflecting and recording the GOMB to OSFM transfer does not meet the personnel action request (PAR) requirements set forth in the Personnel Code.

This account of my employment with the State of Illinois should raise questions whether I was truly an exempt employee. The GOMB/OSFM transfer was not properly memorialized and thus violated the Personnel Code, and I know now for fact based on the EOIG finding that I was retaliated because I engaged in protected activity- Whistleblowing and race discrimination.

And the OSFM/DCFS transfer can only be characterized as retaliatory. I am not an attorney but I do know that the whistleblower Act prohibits an employer from retaliating against an employee for "disclosing information to a government or law enforcement agency, where the employee has reasonable cause to believe that the information discloses a violation of State or federal law, rule, or regulation" (740 ILCS 174/15) or "refusing to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of State or federal law, rule or regulation" (740 ILCS 174/20)

On May 15, 2008, I requested a hearing with the Civil Service Commission alleging violations of the personal code when DCFS denied me "an evaluation, proper raise and bonus". On May 22, 2008 DCFS terminated my employment.

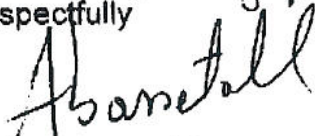
On November 20, 2008 after six months of investigation, the civil service commission after admitting that DCFS violated section of the personal code denied me relief for DCFS violation of the personal code. The Civil service commission ignores the finding of the OEIG regarding the retaliatory practices.

Since my complaint to the EOIG, I life has been changed to the life of a Whistleblower with apparently many attempt to bring fraud and criminal and civil action against me and my family. Apparently, my name is on a watch list. If this is the case, it is important to mention to the honorable member of your committee that my son is a corporal in the U.S Marine Corps, who has fought in IRAQ twice on two separate missions to defend this country.

I believe this case should be investigate by your commission due to fact it raise question about hiring, promotion , firing practices, abuse of power and violation of state and federal law.

Those involved into this are apparently (John Filan, Ginger Ostro, Louanner Peters, Victor Robinson, Joseph August, Erwin McEwin and others...)

I am requesting for relief.
Respectfully



Abasse Tall, CPA



OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE INSPECTOR GENERAL

for the Agencies of the Illinois Governor

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TYPES OF ALLEGATIONS †

The complaints submitted to the OEIG allege a wide range of wrongdoing. Most complaints allege more than one type of wrongdoing by an individual or entity. Some of the most prevalent types of allegations can be divided into ten categories:

- **Fraud**: These allegations include double-billing of the state, services provided by unlicensed providers and similar allegations.
- **Misconduct**: Such as prohibited communications during a procurement process or providing false information during an investigation.
- **Personnel**: These allegations range from an individual providing false information on their employment application to an individual being hired for a position for which they are not qualified.
- **Harassment**: Actions ranging from sexual harassment to workplace violence situations.
- **Mismanagement**: Includes misuse of state dollars, waste, poor use of state labor force and lack of necessary policies or policy enforcement.
- **Unethical practices**: Such as conflict of interest situations or violations of the Gift Ban Act, Revolving Door Prohibition, Retaliation and Failure to Cooperate in an OEIG investigation.
- **Abuse of time**: Allegations of falsified time records and misuse of overtime or compensatory time.
- **Abuse**: Allegations such as misusing one's position with the state for personal gain.
- **Waste**: Misuse of state resources, such as lack of accountability practices for state property.
- **Theft**: Includes not only theft of state property, but of state dollars, time and resources.

† Under the Ethics Act, the OEIG is not allowed to publicly disclose the identity of a complainant, or to release any investigative file or report. 5 ILCS 20-90, 20-95(b), 20-95(d).



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FY 2006 FOUNDED COMPLAINTS (BY AGENCY) †

Agency	No. Complaints Investigated	No. Complaints Founded
Aging	4	0
Agriculture	5	1
Banks and Real Estate (See also Financial and Professional Regulation)	2	1
Board of Education	3	1
Capital Development Board	1	1
Central Management Services	17	6
Chicago State University	6	0
Children and Family Services	9	2
Commerce and Community Affairs	1	0
Commerce and Economic Opportunity	2	0
Commerce Commission	3	0
Corrections	44	3
Criminal Justice Information Authority	1	0
Eastern Illinois University	1	0
Emergency Management	2	0
Employment Security	23	4
Environmental Protection Agency	1	0
Financial And Professional Regulation	6	0
Fire Marshal	3	1
Gaming Board	3	1
Governor's Office	6	0
Governor's Office of Management and Budget	1	1
Governors State University	1	0

ABASSE TALL,

Petitioner,

vs.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN
AND FAMILY SERVICES,

Respondent.

CASE NO. RV-45-08

FINDING AND DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVING READ THE PROPOSED FINDING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DATED OCTOBER 28, 2008, HEREBY AFFIRM AND ADOPT SAID FINDING AND CERTIFY IT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

FINDING: IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED THAT THE PETITIONER PROVED BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE THAT THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES (DCFS) VIOLATED SECTION 310.450(B)(1). HOWEVER, SINCE TALL WAS SUBSEQUENTLY DISCHARGED, DCFS IS DIRECTED TO CONFORM TO ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 310.450(B)(1) FOR ALL FUTURE EVALUATIONS BY ENSURING THAT IMMEDIATE SUPERVISORS DISCUSS EVALUATION RESULTS WITH COVERED EMPLOYEES.

DECISION: THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVING FOUND A VIOLATION OF THE PERSONNEL CODE OR PERSONNEL RULES, HEREBY DIRECT THE AGENCY TO CONFORM TO ALL THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 310.450(B)(1) FOR ALL FUTURE EVALUATIONS BY ENSURING THAT IMMEDIATE SUPERVISORS DISCUSS EVALUATION RESULTS WITH COVERED EMPLOYEES. THIS IS A FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SUBJECT TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW ACT.

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