



**Lehigh County**  
Pennsylvania

**OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER**

Mark Pinsley, MBA  
COUNTY CONTROLLER

Thomas Grogan, CPA  
DEPUTY CONTROLLER

**TO:** Final Report Distribution  
**FROM:** Mark Pinsley, County Controller *MP*  
**DATE:** January 7, 2021  
**RE:** Ethics Hotline Activity - 2020

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We have compiled a listing of ethics hotline activity for 2020. The ethics hotline continues to be a valuable tool for employees and the public to report suspected improprieties. All reports received are investigated by our office or directed to the appropriate party for final disposition.

AUDITS/ETHICS HOTLINE ACTIVITY



COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

*Ethics Hotline Activity  
for the Calendar Year Ended December 31, 2020*

REPORT NO. 21-01

COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

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Geoff Brace, Chair  
Lehigh County Board of Commissioners  
Lehigh County Government Center  
17 South Seventh Street  
Allentown, PA 18101-2400

In accordance with Ordinance 1993-130, the County of Lehigh established a hotline (610-782-3999) for the reporting of suspected theft, fraud, and abuse of county resources and/or assets. The hotline is based in the Controller’s Office and is available for use by both county employees and the public 24 hours a day. Callers can report anonymously any situation that appears improper. All calls are investigated by the Controller’s Office or are directed to the proper authority (if not under county jurisdiction).

The administrative code, as amended by Ordinance 1993-130, requires periodic reporting to the Board of Commissioners. Attached please find a summary account of “Ethics Hotline” calls received during 2020.

*Mark Pinsley*  
MARK PINSLEY  
County Controller

Allentown, Pennsylvania

Attachment

- xc: Kay Achenbach, Director, Human Services
- Phillips Armstrong, County Executive
- David Barilla, Clerk to Board of Commissioners
- Timothy Benyo, Chief of Elections
- Tom Caffrey, Solicitor, Department of Law
- Board of Commissioners
- Jason Cumello, Director, Cedarbrook
- Darbe Dehaven, Human Resource Administrator
- Janine Donate, Director, Corrections
- Joseph Hanna, Sheriff
- Edward Hozza Jr., County Administrator
- The Honorable Brian Johnson, Pres. Judge
- Frank Kane, Director, Comm. & Econ. Dev.
- Kimberly Makoul, Chief Public Defender
- Michael Millan, Cty. Det, Dist. Atty’s Office
- Richard Molchany, Director, General Services
- Marc Redding, Director, Human Resource
- Timothy Reeves, Fiscal Officer
- Kerry Turtzo, Court Administrator

**ETHICS HOTLINE\***  
**SUMMARY OF 2020 ACTIVITY**

<u>Date</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>Ethics File No.</u>
02/06/20	Citizen Complaint Concerning Landlord – Cash Payments Not Recorded	E20-01
02/12/20	Citizen Complaint – Ex Husband's Criminal Activity	E20-02
02/12/20	Alleged Relationship Between County Employee and County Vendor – Aging	E20-03
03/03/20	Supervisory Report Lost/Stolen Laptop – Cedarbrook FH	E20-04
03/30/20	Citizen Complaint – Part Time Retiree's Still Working in Positions That Should Be Filled With Lower Paid Employees	E20-05
04/24/20	Citizen complaint about LIHEAP Energy Delivery	E20-06
05/29/20	Anonymous Complaint – Management Not Wearing Proper PPE During COVID – Aging	E20-07
06/15/20	Anonymous Complaint – Alleged Nepotism – Court Administration	E20-08
06/19/20	Supervisory Report Lost/Stolen Tools and Equipment – Parks & Recreation	E20-09
07/10/20	Alleged Unprofessional Treatment of Employees – Bureau of Collections	E20-10
08/17/20	Supervisory Report Lost/Stolen Wireless Mouse – Intellectual Disabilities	E20-11
09/21//20	Supervisory Report Lost/Stolen Surface Pro – OCYS	E20-12
09/23/20	Citizen Complaint - Alleged Unfair Advantage - Public Surplus Items	E20-13
09/28/20	Supervisory Report Lost/Stolen Maintenance Tools and Equipment – Cedarbrook FH	E20-14
10/06/20	Supervisory Report Lost/Stolen Multiple Laptops, Tablets, and Computer Equipment – Cedarbrook FH	E20-15
11/17/2020	Citizen Complaint - Alleged Voter Ballots Not Counted	E20-16

11/24/2020	Anonymous Complaint – Management Not Wearing PPE In Office Among Staff and Employees Not Notified of Contact Tracing with Confirmed COVID Employees – Aging	E20-17
12/8/2020	Supervisory Report Lost/Stolen Cell Phone - OCYS	E20-18
12/15/20	Anonymous Employee Complaint – Alleged Supervisory Misconduct and Potential Conflicts of Interest – Mental Health	E20-19

**All reported issues are received and reviewed by the Office of the Controller. Allegations are either investigated by the Controller’s Office or directed to the appropriate party for disposition. Although many county ethics hotline allegations prove to be without merit, tips from a fraud hotline have proven to be the best source for uncovering fraud, waste and abuse (Association of Certified Fraud Examiners - 2020 Report to the Nations). If allegations are deemed meritorious, a separate report is issued subject to the confidentiality requirements of the Government Auditing Standards.**

\*Includes reports received per Administrative Notice 2001-4, “Supervisor’s Report of Lost or Missing Property”.