



Lehigh County
Pennsylvania

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

Mark Pinsley, MBA Nanton John, CFE
COUNTY CONTROLLER DEPUTY CONTROLLER

TO: Final Report Distribution
FROM: Mark Pinsley, County Controller
DATE: January 10, 2022
RE: Ethics Hotline Activity - 2021

Handwritten initials, possibly "MP", circled in blue ink.

We have compiled a listing of ethics hotline activity for 2021. 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, 2021*

COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

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Lehigh County Pennsylvania

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

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COUNTY CONTROLLER DEPUTY CONTROLLER

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 2021.

MARK PINSLEY
County Controller

Allentown, Pennsylvania

Attachment

- | | |
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| <p>xc: Kay Achenbach, Director, Human Services
Phillips Armstrong, County Executive
David Backenstoe, Acting Solicitor, Dept. of Law
David Barilla, Clerk to Board of Commissioners
Timothy Benyo, Chief of Elections
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.</p> | <p>Kimberly Makoul, Chief Public Defender
Michael Millan, Cty. Det, Dist. Atty's Office
Richard Molchany, Director, General Services
Timothy Reeves, Fiscal Officer
Kerry Turtzo, Court Administrator</p> |
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ETHICS HOTLINE*
SUMMARY OF 2021 ACTIVITY

<u>Date</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>Ethics File No.</u>
1/26/2021	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Number of Reported COVID Cases - COJR	E21-01
2/12/2021	Citizen Complaint - Alleged Social Security Fraud	E21-02
2/12/2021	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Availability of COVID Vaccine	E21-03
3/15/2021	Citizen Complaint - Availability of Pre-Trial Services on Weekends	E21-04
3/25/2021	Citizen Complaint - Alleged Altercation at the Courthouse	E21-05
3/31/2021	Cedarbrook Nursing Home Resident - Case Worker Complaint	E21-06
5/11/2021	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Adherence to County's COVID Best Practices Protocols - Aging	E21-07 E21-08
5/24/2021	Citizen Complaint - Primary Ballot Tabulation follow-up	E21-09
6/8/2021	Lost/Stolen Property - Charging Cord and Adapter	E21-10
6/29/2021	Citizen Complaint - Email Fraud Scheme	E21-11
7/15/2021	Citizen Complaint - Unemployment Fraud	E21-12
7/28/2021	Human Resources Employee Communication - Unemployment Fraud	E21-13
8/6/2021	Lost/Stolen Property - Cell Phone	E21-14
9/27/2021	Lost/Stolen Property - Microsoft Surface	E21-15
10/22/2021	Lost/Stolen Property - Handcuffs and Restraining Belt	E21-16

10/22/2021	Citizen Complaint - Email Fraud Scheme	E21-17
10/26/2021	Employee Complaint - Human Resources Harassment Report Status	E21-18
10/26/2021	Employee Complaint - Adherence to County's COVID Best Practices Protocols - Aging	E21-18
10/26/2021	Employee Complaint - Recording of Zoom Calls	E21-18
10/27/2021	Employee Complaint - Adherence to County's COVID Best Practices Protocols - Aging	E21-19
10/27/2021	Employee Complaint - Alleged Favoritism; Work-From-Home Policy - COJR	E21-20
11/3/2021	Lost/Stolen Property - Cell Phone	E21-21
11/17/2021	Lost/Stolen Property - Gloves	E21-22
11/19/2021	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Alleged Favoritism; Alleged Employee Compensated for State Training During Work Hours - Adult Probation	E21-23
11/30/2021	Employee Complaint - Human Resources Harassment Report Status	E21-24
12/22/2021	Anonymous Citizen Complaint - Alleged Welfare Fraud	E21-25
12/23/2021	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Alleged Favoritism; Alleged Department Mis-Management - Public Defender's Office	E21-26

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".