



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 5, 2023
RE: Ethics Hotline Activity - 2022



We have compiled a listing of ethics hotline activity for 2022. 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, 2022*

COUNTY OF LEHIGH, PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
REPORT ON ETHICS HOTLINE ACTIVITY – 2022 MARK PINSLEY, LEHIGH COUNTY CONTROLLER	1
SCHEDULE – SUMMARY OF 2022 ACTIVITY.....	2-3



Lehigh County Pennsylvania

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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 2022.

MARK PINSLEY
County Controller

Allentown, Pennsylvania

Attachment

- xc: Kay Achenbach, Director, Human Services
- Phillips Armstrong, County Executive
- David Backenstoe, Solicitor, Dept. of Law
- David Barilla, Clerk to Board of Commissioners
- Timothy Benyo, Chief of Elections
- Board of Commissioners
- Jason Cumello, Director, Cedarbrook
- Jill Pittenger, Human Resources Officer
- 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
- James Martin, District Attorney
- Michael Millan, Cty. Det, Dist. Atty’s Office
- Richard Molchany, Director, General Services
- Timothy Reeves, Chief Fiscal Officer
- Kerry Turtzo, Court Administrator



ETHICS HOTLINE*
SUMMARY OF 2022 ACTIVITY

<u>Date</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>Ethics File No.</u>
1/10/2022	Fraudulent Emergency Rental Assistance Program Check Issued by Third Party	E22-01
1/14/2022	Lost/Stolen Property - Cell Phone	E22-02
1/14/2022	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Intellectual Disabilities Employee Behavior and Potential Conflict of Interest	E22-03
2/17/2022	Citizen Complaint - Movement of District Polling Location	E22-04
2/18/2022	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Coroner Office Employee's Potential Conflict of Interest	E22-05
3/8/2022	Lost/Stolen Property - Cell Phone	E22-06
3/14/2022	Anonymous Citizen Complaint - Potential Conflict of Interest and Misuse of County Grant Awards at Local Non-Profits	E22-07
3/16/2022	Lost/Stolen Property - Tablet	E22-08
3/24/2022	Citizen Complaint - Local Attorney's Improprieties	E22-09
4/21/2022	Anonymous Employee Complaint – Sanitation Concern	E22-10
6/7/2022	Unauthorized Cashing of MDJ Cost and Fines Check	E22-11
6/16/2022	Anonymous Employee Complaint - Employee Allowing an Unauthorized Vehicle into the Parking Garage	E22-12
7/11/2022	Lost/Stolen Property - 2 Computers (found 12/7/2022)	E22-13
8/17/2022	Lost/Stolen Property - Earbuds and Various Personal Items	E22-14
9/21/2022	Anonymous Citizen Complaint - Potential Conflict of Interest and Misuse of County Grant Awards at Local Non-Profits	E22-15
10/22/2022	Citizen Complaint - Personal Bank Account Fraudulent Transaction	E22-16
11/14/2022	Citizen Complaint - Domestic Relations Child Support Concern	E22-17

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, organizations with hotlines detect fraud more quickly and have lower losses than organizations without hotlines (Association of Certified Fraud Examiners – Occupational Fraud 2022: 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”.