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*Auditing for a Better Oregon*

November 5, 2004

Ron Ruecker, Superintendent  
Department of Oregon State Police  
255 Capitol Street NE, Suite 400  
Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Mr. Ruecker:

The Oregon Audits Division received allegations regarding questionable overtime and reimbursement of expenses, false reporting of personal leave, personal use of a state vehicle, and failure to fulfill assigned work tasks by an Oregon State Police (department) employee. The specifics of the allegations and evidence were previously presented to department management.

Our work included inquiries of numerous department employees and managers, examination of documents including employee timesheets and expense reimbursements, as well as various department and state policies.

We determined that the expense reimbursements appear to be appropriate and personal leave was properly reported based on the information reported compared to supporting documentation.

However, we did find that the allegations regarding questionable overtime and personal use of a state vehicle were supportable. Specifically, some overtime was unnecessary and other overtime should not have been awarded. In addition, it appears the employee was using a state vehicle to commute to and from work in violation of department and state policy.

We were unable to determine the validity of the allegation regarding failure to fulfill assigned work tasks. The documentation available and interviews conducted did not provide sufficient evidence from which to draw a conclusion, and as such we take no position.

**We recommend** the department take appropriate action to ensure overtime is necessary and appropriately awarded, and ensure state vehicles are used in accordance with department and state policy. Regarding the allegation relating to fulfillment of work, we recommend that the department consider whether an investigation is warranted based on

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department policies and procedures, and notify the Audits Division in writing regarding that disposition.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (503) 986-2354.

Sincerely,  
OREGON AUDITS DIVISION

Nancy L. Young, CPA, CISA, CFE  
Audit Manager

NLY:bk

cc: Cynthia Kok, Office of Professional Standards  
Laurie Warner, Acting Director, Department of Administrative Services