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President and CEO

OIG No. 2014-1221
Leithland "Rickie" Tulloch
May 7, 2015

Office of the President Summary

Allegations concerning Leithland Tulloch, Deputy Chief Financial Officer at Harlem Hospital in 2014, were directed to the OIG suggesting that Mr. Tulloch improperly campaigned for public elected office while serving as a full-time HHC employee.

OIG Report

The OIG interviewed Mr. Tulloch and his supervisor, and examined email, telephone, and employment attendance records. The OIG discovered no evidence that Mr. Tulloch engaged in political activity during hours of employment. Indeed, multiple specific instances of Mr. Tulloch using approved "leave" were documented; his supervisor, knowingly approved such leave, the OIG reports.

However, the OIG found that Mr. Tulloch received 48 emails sent to his HHC email account from "Friends of Rickie Tulloch". Also, one campaign email from Mr. Tulloch's personal email account was delivered to his HHC account.

Disposition of the Office of the President

The OIG recommended Mr. Tulloch's termination based upon his apparent violation of Chapter 68, Section 2604(b)(2) stating that "No public servant shall engage in any business, transaction or private employment, or have any financial or other private interest, direct or indirect, which is in conflict with the proper discharge of his or her official duties."

It is noted, however, that Mr. Tulloch, (1) sought and received approval for his campaign activity from his supervisor; (2) utilized leave time for all campaign activity; (3) did not reply to the 48 "campaign" emails received at his HHC account; (4) did not send any campaign related emails from his HHC account; and (5) was not found to have used his telephone for campaign purposes. However, it is noted that Mr. Tulloch could have, and should have, informed the campaign email correspondents to cease their emails, or delete him from the mailserver list.

Therefore, it is recommended that a "Letter of Caution" be provided to Mr. Tulloch and placed in his personnel file since he failed to fully insulate HHC from his campaign activity.



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