

Re: OSC File No. DI-20-0704

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has substantiated many of my allegations with the White River Junction, Vermont Veterans Affairs Medical Center (the facility) in non-compliance with the Veteran Health Administration (VHA) policy with respect to medical, teaching and research services sold to Dartmouth, I feel it is important to emphasize the financial impact for the public.

Through the Veterans Affairs (VA) OIG investigation, the \$1.1 million was determined to represent the potential revenue for the fiscal year 2020 (FY2020) services. The agency's FY is October 1st through September 30th, therefore FY2020 is for Oct. 1, 2019 - Sept. 30, 2020. The investigation also reported the facility auditor determined that Dartmouth had not yet been invoiced for \$86,000 for the FY2020 as of July 2020 under ***documented sharing agreements***.

While I informed the importance to correct the issues of the Sharing Agreements to the Chief of Staff, Associate Director, Chief Financial Officer, Associate Fiscal Office, and Chief of Accounting they ignored my concerns. The action by the CFO to task the facility auditor (which concluded the \$86,000 mentioned above) occurred in July 2020, which occurred between three to four months after the facility's termination of my employment (March 2020) and the whistleblower filing. While many of the VAMC officials knew of the situation with the invoicing of Dartmouth, they are part of the systemic failing to comply with VHA policy with respect to sharing agreements and ignored my concerns.


The OIG's report does not state an amount provided by the facility auditor that reflects the time of my filing and termination of the estimated amounts owed by Dartmouth for FY2020 and the years prior. The dollar amount would be difficult to determine since there were VA employees providing services to Dartmouth unknown to the Contract Specialist, Acquisition Utilization Specialist, with no records of hours and dates of their services. As stated in the OIG's report, there are situations of years of services being done without an approved and signed agreement, as well as the facility lack of knowledge and tracking of VA employee's services to Dartmouth.

"The OIG team did not identify any complete accounting of the status of billing and collections for all sharing agreements..." (Report of Investigation re OSC File No. DI-20-0740), therefore I feel that an external audit of the systemic failings of the sharing agreements is required at the White River Junction, Vermont VAMC to ensure all issues of the services provided to Dartmouth are uncovered, as well as to identify the complete accounting status of the billing and collections that were done, as well as those that are still outstanding.

Here are my reasons:

While an internal audit is primarily a holistic view with the facility's controls, practices and performance, the facility auditor is an employee of the facility, and the general intended audience is the senior officials of the facility. The internal auditor reports to and is directed by the officials of the facility and conducts an audit of only what is instructed. Also, an internal auditor can come from a range of academic backgrounds to accommodate the specifics for the facility.

An external audit is primarily done by external auditors who investigate the organizations financial accounts that they are reliable and accurate of the financial performance. They would focus on the verification on the regulatory compliances with federal regulations and standards. The external audit would focus on the integrity of the facility and the standard of compliances. External auditors are not involved with the facility structure and their audience is not limited to the facility leaders. External auditors are certified accountants and deal more with the government bodies of the compliances.



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 10:47 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: New OSC Contact for DI-20-0740

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Yes I did. It is so unfortunate what had happened to me with the Dept of VA.
I received a position in another department at the VA and they railroaded me, and it is unbelievable that the people requesting me to do unethical things have no consequences.

On Tue, Oct 29, 2024 at 4:58 PM [REDACTED] wrote:
Hello [REDACTED]

I hope everything is going well. Did you get a chance to review the agency's supplemental report?

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
Attorney
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U.S. Office of Special Counsel
1730 M Street, N.W.
Suite 218
Washington, D.C. 20036
[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 1:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: New OSC Contact for DI-20-0740

Hello [REDACTED]

The agency provided us with a supplemental report in response to follow-up questions we sent them. I have attached it here for your review and response.

Kind regards,