

Department of Industrial Relations

Investigations of Improper Activities by State Employees, January 2006 Through June 2006

INVESTIGATION I2006-0708 (I2006-2), SEPTEMBER 2006

Department of Industrial Relations' response as of September 2006

We investigated and substantiated an allegation that a Department of Industrial Relations (Industrial Relations) employee improperly used bereavement leave.

Finding: An Industrial Relations' employee used bereavement leave while she was in jail.

An employee charged and received payment for 16 hours of bereavement leave on her official time report and cited the death of her aunt as the reason for her absence. However, public records show that the employee was incarcerated in a Los Angeles County jail for those two days. By charging bereavement leave for hours she missed due to her incarceration, the employee improperly claimed and received \$282 for 16 hours she did not work, in violation of state law.

Industrial Relations' Action: Corrective action taken.

Industrial Relations served the employee with a five-day suspension without pay. In addition, Industrial Relations set up an accounts receivable to recover the 16 hours of pay that was improperly charged as bereavement leave.

Investigative Highlight . . .

A Department of Industrial Relations employee improperly used bereavement leave for work missed while incarcerated.