



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE WELFARE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION FRAUD INSPECTOR GENERAL

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LETIZIA TAGLIAFIERRO
INSPECTOR GENERAL

April 8, 2021

Anthony J. Annucci, Esq.
Acting Commissioner
New York State Department of Corrections
and Community Supervision
The Harriman State Office Campus
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226

Re: WCFIG 3012-325-2019

Dear Acting Commissioner Annucci:

On October 10, 2019, the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) alleged to the Office of the New York State Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General (WCFIG) that [REDACTED], a DOCCS correction officer, submitted a false or altered medical leave note to DOCCS to excuse a leave of absence from work relating to a workers' compensation injury or illness.

WCFIG investigated this allegation and found that on August 15, 2019, [REDACTED] reported that he sustained a work-related injury. [REDACTED] was examined for this injury by [REDACTED] on three dates in 2019: August 20, September 4 and October 7. Following the August 20, 2019 examination, Dr. [REDACTED] issued a medical leave note to [REDACTED] which excused [REDACTED] from work from August 15, 2019 through September 3, 2019. Dr. [REDACTED] advised WCFIG that this was the only medical leave note he issued to [REDACTED].

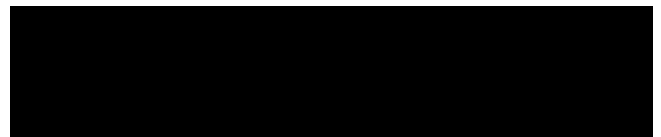
However, [REDACTED] submitted to DOCCS five medical leave notes which purported to be based on medical examinations by Dr. [REDACTED] on four dates in 2019: August 20, September 3, October 3 (two medical leave notes), and November 29. These medical leave notes purportedly excused [REDACTED] from work from August 15 through October 17, 2019 and November 29 through December 2, 2019.

Dr. [REDACTED] confirmed to WCFIG that all but the August 20, 2019 medical leave note had been altered and were not issued by Dr. [REDACTED] or based upon examinations conducted on the dates indicated on the forms. Notably, WCFIG determined from a review of medical records generated by Dr. [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] that although [REDACTED] had not requested additional medical leave notes, his injury and medical records would have supported leave through October 17, 2019.

Given these findings, I am referring this matter to DOCCS for any action deemed appropriate against [REDACTED]

Please advise me of the action taken by DOCCS in response to this referral within 45 days of the date of this matter. If you require further information, please contact Deputy Inspector General James Davis at 518.474.1010.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Letizia Tagliaferro
Inspector General

Cc: Cathy Sheehan, Esq.
Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel