



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

June 23, 2020

Eric Madoff
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
New York State Insurance Fund
199 Church Street
New York, New York 10007

Re: WCFIG 1699-325-2018

Dear Executive Director and CEO Madoff:

On May 21, 2018, the New York State Insurance Fund (SIF) alleged to the Office of the New York State Workers' Compensation Fraud Inspector General (WCFIG) that SIF employee [REDACTED] was filing fraudulent medical leave notes with SIF to justify her absences from work. I am writing to advise you of the findings of the Inspector General's investigation.

The Inspector General's investigation into this allegation found that [REDACTED] worked as a medical care and claims service representative in SIF's Suffolk County office for approximately 17 years. She retired from SIF on May 24, 2019, during the pendency of this investigation. [REDACTED] has been a licensed registered nurse in New York State since 1987. Her registration is valid through February 2022.

The investigation, which included a review of documentation filed with SIF by [REDACTED] revealed that [REDACTED] filed 24 forged doctors' notes with SIF from June

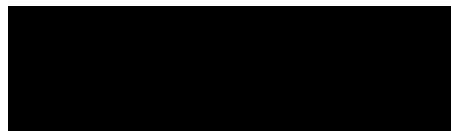
2017 through May 2019, to justify her absences from work on 51 occasions. In accordance with SIF policy requiring that all absences due to workers' compensation injuries be supported by a doctor's medical documentation, SIF did not pay [REDACTED] for these work absences as [REDACTED] failed to provide such medical documentation. The notes, which purported to excuse her absences from work due to her medical condition from workers' compensation injuries, were confirmed by the doctors' offices as either wholly fraudulent or altered.

WCFIG presented the findings of its investigation to the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, which advised in October 2019 that it was declining to prosecute this matter.

Given [REDACTED] misconduct, I am providing the findings of WCFIG's investigation to the New York State Education Department's Office of the Professions for its review of [REDACTED] conduct as a licensed registered nurse.

If you require further information, please contact Deputy Inspector General Jessica Silver at 212.635.3150.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Letizia Tagliafierro.

Letizia Tagliafierro
Inspector General

Cc: Tanisha S. Edwards, Esq.
General Counsel
New York State Insurance Fund

Sarah Benson
Deputy Commissioner
Office of the Professions
New York State Education Department