



LUCY LANG
Inspector General

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May 24, 2023

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: NYS IG 1084-316-2022

Dear Acting Commissioner Annucci:

In May 2022, a complaint was received by the Offices of the New York State Inspector General alleging that [REDACTED], a correction officer employed with the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS), submitted fraudulent doctor's notes to DOCCS to receive sick leave to which he was not entitled. The following is a summary of the Inspector General's investigation of this allegation and findings.

The investigation found that between February and April 2022, DOCCS received a total of four Documentation for Personal Sick Leave (DPSL) forms, which had been submitted by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] apparently on behalf of her husband [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The forms were purportedly signed and authorized by Dr. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] Chiropractic Center and advised that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was unfit for duty. Upon receipt of the first three notes, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was credited with approved sick leave for the referenced unscheduled absences. Upon receipt of the fourth note, a DOCCS medical information officer identified the DPSL as non-conforming to agency policy and could not verify that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was in fact treated by Dr. [REDACTED].

Dr. [REDACTED] testified to the Inspector General that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was neither currently nor at any time in the past a patient of the practice. Dr. [REDACTED] also reviewed the four DPSL forms purporting to contain his signature and confirmed that he had not signed any of the forms.

Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] declined to provide a voluntary statement to the Inspector General.

In light of the finding that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] failed to submit legitimate medical documentation to DOCCS for his unscheduled sick leave, I am referring this matter to DOCCS for review and any disciplinary action against [REDACTED] [REDACTED] deemed appropriate.

Please advise me of any action taken by your agency in response to this referral within 45 days of the date of this letter. If you require further information, please contact Deputy Inspector General Jeffrey J. Hagen at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucy Lang".

Lucy Lang
Inspector General

cc: Cathy Sheehan, Esq.
Deputy Commissioner and Counsel