



GOOD GOVERNMENT

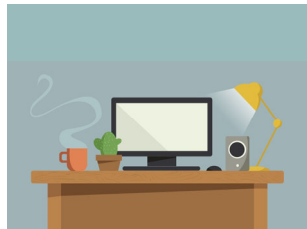
Committed to Honesty and Integrity in City Government

Kamau C. Marable — Editor-In-Chief

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FROM THE DESK OF THE IG

Full Disclosure: My Name

In my many attempts to blend-in and to fit into the great American melting pot, I go by the name “Ellen.”

I’ve been Ellen, on and off, since my college years. During my freshman year, my girlfriends and I decided to go to a campus party. After much discussion, my friends and I decided that my Vietnamese girlfriend and I would use a different name. Afterall, who would be able to pronounce, much less ask, Nyugen (“Win or Wen”) and Eungyung (“Eun-Yung”) to dance? (*Never mind the fact that I’ve never danced in my life before the party.*) So, in one of those life-defining moments, my friend Nyugen became “Yvonne,” and I became Ellen. (*I still can’t dance.*)

During law school and the earlier years of my long legal career, I flipped from Eungyung to Eun, and Eun to Ellen. Not many people could pronounce “Eungyung,” much less “Eun.” In this politically correct world now, some people would interpret my action as a betrayal to my ethnic background. I, however, did it for convenience and it was a choice I made for me. My family and friends call me Ellen, as does my husband.



IG Ellen Ha

I considered changing my name legally to “Ellen,” when I married. However, I chose not to do so at the time and here is why.

My parents told me most traditional and respectable families in Korea consult a naming doctor to properly name their kids. Being the rebels they were, they proudly told me that they named me by themselves. “Eun” means gratitude and “gyung” means celebration in Chinese character. They were grateful to God for my birth and celebrated the event through my name. So, I did not have the heart to change the name given to me by my parents.

I also hesitated to change my last name to my husband’s last name. It was important to him that we had the same last name. He reasoned if we were to have kids someday, it may be easier for the kids. He then promptly offered to change his last name to “Ha” or to “Ha-Ajluni.” However, at that moment, all I could imagine was the various possible reactions from my future in-laws.

So, I reluctantly took my husband’s last name, “Ajluni.” (“ajlu-ni”) Since then, I’ve always insisted my kids’ friends call me Mrs. Ajluni. So, in social and family settings, I am Ellen Ajluni.

However, I’ve been Ellen Ha professionally and I will continue to be Ellen Ha in professional settings. I remain “Ellen” for life’s simplicity’s sake. It is just one less thing to explain to people. I remain “Ha” at work because my marriage does not define who I am at work. More importantly, “Ha” is the last remanent of my Asian American heritage in my name. It was important to me then and now that people understand that, in America, an Asian American female can be a lawyer or even an Inspector General.



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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

MEET...April

By Beverly Murray



April Page

Editor's Note: Ms. April Page is the newest member of the OIG Staff. She was hired in June to serve as an OIG Investigator. We are please to have her on the team!

Tell me about yourself

I was born in New York (Queens) and moved to Michigan at age 5. I am a graduate of Southfield Public Schools. I attended Oakland University where I received my Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. I received my Masters in Education, specializing in Adult Education, from Central Michigan University. I am married with 2 sons, and 3 bonus children. I am a grandmother to one grandson, aged 2. I am a new puppy mom to Nieman, a Portuguese Water Dog. I have been a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc. for 8 years. I have also been a member of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. for 12 years.

What was your most recent position before joining the OIG?

I worked for the State of Michigan as a Probation Agent. As a Parole/Probation Agent, I was responsible for community supervision of offenders. I investigated violations of parole and probation. In addition, I conducted pre-sentence and parole placement investigations.

How do you feel your past experiences has prepared you for this moment in your career?

My degree in Sociology, which is the study of people and their surroundings, helped me to go into the human services field. After college, I really wanted to make a difference. I believe that working in corrections to help reduce recidivism and supervise returning citizens was good fit for that goal at the time. After 17 years of investigations, I realized I have knack for obtaining information needed from people. Being a mom helped me develop communication skills. I believe all of the skills will be useful as an Investigator for the OIG.

In the time you have worked here, what is something you enjoy about working for the OIG?

The staff. Everyone in the office has been so genuine, transparent and helpful.

What is one word your friends/family use most often to describe you? Funny.

What is the first concert you ever attended?

The Jacksons at Joe Louis Arena. It was the Triumph Tour. I remember the screen playing the "Can You Feel It" video and as the video ended, the screen lifted and they all on stage. It was an amazing experience.

Given a chance, who would you like to be for a day?

Oprah Winfrey. She does a lot of philanthropic work and I want to experience her efforts and how she makes a difference. It goes back to my desire to make a difference. Oprah has been so influential in the community, especially the black community, that I just want to see how that feels on another level, outside of my own local community service.



April, Austin, Charles



D.I.V.I.N.E. 49 Spring 2014 SAC



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DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE 151 STATE AND



LOCAL OFFICES OF INSPECTOR GENERAL IN

DID YOU KNOW?

By KASHA GRAVES & TRACEY NEAL

We have shared in past editions of our newsletter that our office is one of many nationally. We thought we would take this opportunity to enumerate and elaborate...

1. Alabama Department of Corrections OIG
2. Arizona Department of Corrections OIG
3. Arizona Department of Economic Security OIG
4. Arizona Department of Transportation OIG Motor
5. Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System OIG
6. Arkansas Office of Medicaid OIG
7. Atlanta OIG
8. California Department of Transportation Independent Office of Audits and Investigations
9. California Highway Patrol OIG
10. California Independent Prison Oversight OIG
11. California Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority OIG
12. California Los Angeles Police Commission OIG
13. California Los Angeles Unified School District OIG
14. California Sacramento County OIG
15. Colorado Department of Corrections OIG
16. Department of the Inspector General for the Columbus Division of Police
17. DC Architect of the Capitol OIG
18. DC Metro OIG
19. DC OIG
20. Delaware River Port Authority OIG
21. Detroit OIG
22. Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration OIG
23. Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities OIG
24. Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University OIG
25. Florida Atlantic University OIG
26. Florida Broward County OIG
27. Florida Chief OIG
28. Florida Citizens Property Insurance Corporation OIG
29. Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services OIG
30. Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation OIG
31. Florida Department of Children and Families OIG
32. Florida Department of Citrus OIG
33. Florida Department of Corrections OIG
34. Florida Department of Economic Opportunity OIG
35. Florida Department of Education OIG
36. Florida Department of Elder Affairs OIG

37. Florida Department of Environmental Protection OIG
38. Florida Department of Financial Services
39. Florida Department of Health OIG
40. Florida Department of Highway Safety and Services OIG
41. Florida Department of Juvenile Justice OIG
42. Florida Department of Law Enforcement OIG
43. Florida Department of Management
44. Florida Department of Military Affairs OIG
45. Florida Department of Revenue OIG
46. Florida Department of State OIG
47. Florida Department of Transportation OIG
48. Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs OIG
49. Florida Division of Emergency Management OIG
50. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
51. Florida Housing Finance Corporation OIG
52. Florida Lake County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller OIG
53. Florida Lee County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller OIG
54. Florida Lottery OIG
55. Florida Miami-Dade County OIG
56. Florida Office of Attorney General OIG
57. Florida Office of Early Learning OIG
58. Florida Office of Financial Regulation OIG
59. Florida Office of Insurance Regulation OIG
60. Florida Okaloosa County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller OIG
61. Florida Palm Beach County Constitutional Clerk and Comptroller OIG
62. Florida Palm Beach County OIG
63. Florida Palm Beach County School District OIG
64. Florida Pasco County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller OIG
65. Florida Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller OIG
66. Florida Polk County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller OIG
67. Florida Public Service Commission OIG
68. Florida St Johns County OIG
69. Florida St Johns River Water Management District OIG
70. Florida State University OIG
71. Florida Supreme Court OIG
72. Georgia Department of Community Health OIG
73. Georgia Department of Human Services OIG
74. Georgia Department of Public Health OIG
75. Georgia OIG
76. Illinois Chicago Housing Authority OIG



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DID YOU KNOW? (CONT.)

77. Illinois Chicago OIG
78. Illinois Chicago Park District OIG
79. Illinois Chicago Public Schools OIG
80. Illinois City Colleges of Chicago OIG
81. Illinois City of Springfield OIG
82. Illinois Cook County OIG
83. Illinois Department of Children and Family Services OIG
84. Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
85. Illinois Department of Human Services OIG
86. Illinois Executive Inspector General for Office of
87. Illinois Executive Inspector General for the Agencies of the Illinois Governor
88. Illinois Executive Inspector General for the Office of
89. Illinois Office of Legislative OIG
90. Illinois State Toll Highway Authority OIG
91. Indiana OIG
92. Kansas Office of Medicaid Inspector General
93. Kentucky Environmental and Public Protection OIG
94. Kentucky Transportation Cabinet OIG
95. Louisiana Jefferson Parish OIG
96. Louisiana New Orleans OIG
97. Louisiana State OIG
98. Maryland Baltimore OIG
99. Maryland Department of Health OIG
100. Maryland Department of Human Resources OIG
101. Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional
102. Maryland Montgomery County OIG
103. Massachusetts OIG
104. Detroit Public Schools Community District OIG
105. Minnesota Dept of Human Services OIG
106. Mississippi Office of the State Auditor
107. Nebraska Child Welfare OIG
108. Nebraska Correctional System OIG
109. Nevada Department of Corrections OIG
110. New Jersey Dept of Transportation OIG
111. New Mexico Albuquerque OIG

112. New Mexico Dept of Corrections OIG
113. New Mexico Dept of Human Services OIG
114. New York and New Jersey Port Authority OIG
115. New York City Dept of Investigation
116. New York City of Yonkers OIG
117. New York City Police Department OIG
118. New York Nassau County OIG
119. New York State Gaming Commission OIG
120. New York State Medicaid OIG
121. New York State Metropolitan Transportation
122. New York State OIG
123. New York State Unified Court System OIG
124. North Carolina Dept of Transportation OIG
125. Ohio Cuyahoga County OIG
126. Ohio OIG
127. Oklahoma Corrections OIG
128. Oklahoma Human Services OIG
129. Oregon Department of Corrections OIG
130. Pennsylvania OIG
131. Pennsylvania Philadelphia OIG
132. Pennsylvania Philadelphia School District OIG
133. South Carolina Dept of Juvenile Justice OIG
134. South Carolina Dept Social Services OIG
135. South Carolina OIG
136. South Florida Water Management District OIG
137. Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority OIG
138. Tennessee Dept of Finance and Adm OIG
139. Tennessee Dept of Human Services OIG
140. Texas Dallas OIG
141. Texas Dept of Criminal Justice OIG
142. Texas Dept of Juvenile Justice OIG
143. Texas Dept of Public Safety OIG
144. Texas Health and Human Services OIG
145. Utah Medicaid OIG
146. Virginia Department of Corrections OIG
147. Virginia Richmond OIG
148. Virginia State OIG
149. West Virginia Dept of Health and Human Resources OIG
150. West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner
151. Wisconsin Department of Health Services OIG

List Courtesy of the Association of Inspectors General.



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DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Collaboration Between OIG & Treasury Department to Obtain Unclaimed Property Payable to the City of Detroit

By Edyth Porter-Stanley

The OIG and the City of Detroit Office of the Chief Financial Officer - Treasury Department (Treasury) collaborated on *Agreed Upon Procedures* related to funds officially designated by the state as *unclaimed property*. The *unclaimed property* is held by the State of Michigan (State) and appear to be payable to the City of Detroit. The “agreed upon procedures” were a set of actions the Treasury and OIG agreed to perform in an effort to collect funds held by the State of Michigan. These funds consist of uncashed checks that companies and banks submit to the State in compliance with Michigan Unclaimed Property Act, Public Act 29 of 1995 (Act). As of October 4, 2021, the State held 651 items totaling \$622,320.75 that appear to be payable to the city. Treasury previously made efforts to obtain the unclaimed funds from the State. However, the State Unclaimed Property process did not provide sufficient information to allow Treasury to make a definitive determination whether the funds belong to the City and if so, to which department the funds should be allocated. Based on the cooperation between Treasury, OIG, and the State additional lines of communication were established that will hopefully result in the future collection of any funds that are verified as payable to the City.

The OIG thanks former Deputy CFO/Treasury Crista J. McLellan, Interim Deputy CFO/Treasury Justin Bahari (Previously Deputy Treasurer for Property Tax) and Deputy Treasurer for Operations Paul Zelenak for being open to the working with the OIG in this effort. They were instrumental in the development and completion of this effort. They were always very responsive in providing the information necessary to successfully collect the funds held by the State. Finally, they were receptive to OIG’s recommendations to prevent future unclaimed property and continue to pursue their collection.



Crista J. McLellan



Justin Bahari



Paul Zelenak



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AROUND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL WORLD



Phony Pregnancy ...

Director Defrauds the State of Georgia

By Jennifer Bentley

The State of Georgia Office of Inspector General (GAOIG) investigated an allegation that the Director of External Affairs for the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA Director) faked multiple pregnancies. In October 2020, the GVRA Director, who supervised agency's marketing and media communications, announced that she was pregnant and, subsequently, in May 2021, that she had given birth. Shortly after, GVRA leadership received an email from an individual claiming to be the father of the child that stated the GVRA Director was ordered to be on several weeks of rest following the delivery. Therefore, GVRA approved nearly 7 weeks of paid FMLA leave that it otherwise would not have approved.

The GAOIG investigation found that a coworker had witnessed the lower portion of the GVRA Director's stomach "come away" from her body which lead the coworker to believe that the GVRA Director wore a fake pregnancy stomach. The Director also sent several GVRA employees alleged pictures of her baby. However, a closer review of the pictures appeared to be inconsistent with the baby looking different in each photo.

The GAOIG investigation also revealed that the GVRA Director reported giving birth in July 2020 and stated that she was pregnant again in August 2021. The GAOIG found that the State Office of Vital Records did not have any birth certificates that listed the GVRA Director as the mother. An GAOIG review of medical and insurance records also confirmed that she had never delivered a child.

The GVRA Director resigned shortly after being interviewed by GAOIG investigators. On February 10, 2022, she was indicted by a Fulton County grand jury on 4 felony counts: 3 counts of false statements and one count of Identity Fraud. On April 4, 2022, the now former GVRA Director pled guilty and was sentenced to 5 years probation, 40 hours of community service, and required to pay \$12,307 in restitution to the State of Georgia.

