

- To: Honorable Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County Honorable Jean Monestime, Chairman and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County
- From: Mary T. Cagle, Inspector General

December 1, 2016

Date:

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Subject: Former Public Housing and Community Development Employee Arrested for Falsifying Florida Retirement System Application for Disability Pension; Ref. IG16-03

Pursuant to a request for investigative assistance by the Miami-Dade County Internal Services Department, Risk Management Division, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation into a former Public Housing and Community Development (PHCD) employee suspected of falsifying a Florida Retirement System (FRS) pension application. The investigation, resulting in an arrest warrant being issued for Hector T. Gregorio, concluded on December 1, 2016, when Gregorio surrendered to the Miami-Dade Police Department.

The OIG's investigation found that Gregorio was injured in March 2011 while performing his duties as a maintenance worker for PHCD. According to all accounts, Gregorio was moving a refrigerator when it fell on him causing the injury. Gregorio filed a workers' compensation claim and was examined and treated by two separate physicians. According to the physicians, Gregorio reached maximum medical improvement and was diagnosed with an 18% disability impairment.

Subsequent to his filing a workers' compensation claim with the County, Gregorio filed paperwork seeking retirement and activation of his FRS benefits. Gregorio submitted forged physician's reports to the County's Risk Management Division and to FRS that falsely claimed that he was permanently and totally disabled as the result of the injury sustained on the job. As a result of Gregorio's false claim, he received \$8,038.44 in FRS benefits that he was not entitled to receive. Gregorio has been charged with one count of Workers Compensation Misrepresentation by False or Misleading Statement and eight counts of Grand Theft; all are third degree felonies.

cc: Alex Ferro, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Tara C. Smith, Director, Internal Services Department (ISD)
Michael Liu, Director, Public Housing and Community Development (PHCD)