

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Investigations of Improper Activities by State Employees, July 2004 Through December 2004

INVESTIGATION I2004-1104 (REPORT I2005-1), MARCH 2005

Department of Finance's response as of March 2006

Investigative Highlight . . .

The Department of Finance improperly divulged confidential information.

We investigated and substantiated an allegation that the Department of Finance (Finance) improperly disclosed confidential information.

Finding: Finance improperly disclosed confidential information.

In violation of privacy rights, Finance published the name and Social Security number of a former state employee in a publication that is distributed throughout the State and is available on the World Wide Web. In addition, Finance identified two other state employees and a state vendor whose names and Social Security numbers had also been improperly disclosed.

Finance's Action: Corrective action taken.

Finance removed the confidential information from its Web site and from any Web search engines that may have archived information from its Web site prior to being updated. In addition, Finance provided hard copy updates, without the confidential information, to users of the publication and revised its procedures to prevent violations of this nature in the future. Finally, Finance took steps to notify those individuals of the improper disclosure.

