



OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Megan Davey Limarzi, Esq.
Inspector General

NEWS RELEASE

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County Employee Violated Purchase Card Policies

Rockville, Maryland – Montgomery County Maryland Inspector General Megan Davey Limarzi announced today the release of a [report, *DHHS IT P-Card Allegations*](#), detailing the results of an Office of the Inspector General investigation of an Information Technology (IT) Specialist at the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) who was alleged to have violated policy when utilizing a County issued purchase card, not following policy when purchasing a large quantity of computers, and maintaining loose inventory controls over IT equipment.

Through investigation, the OIG found that the employee exceeded card purchasing limits and that DHHS IT generally did not adhere to County policy when approving, procuring, and tracking purchases made with County issued purchase cards. The report also notes lax oversight practices of purchases under \$1,000. In examining a sample of the more than \$260,000 worth of purchases made by the subject employee from June 26, 2018 through December 2020, the OIG found no indication that they used their assigned purchase card for personal gain.

Failure to enforce the provisions of the County's purchase card policy and maintain tight controls over spending can lead to abuse and fraud. The report contains two recommendations for improvements that if implemented and coupled with increased oversight will help minimize existing vulnerabilities. The County Chief Administrative Officer concurred with the recommendations.

The full [report](#) can be found at the following location:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OIG/Resources/Files/PDF/IGActivity/FY2021/Memo_Investigation_DHHS-IT_P-CardAllegationPublic_21-010.pdf

Please direct all inquiries to:

Email: ig@montgomerycountymd.gov

Phone: 240-777-8240

51 Monroe Street, Suite 600 • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 240-777-8240, 240-777-8254 FAX
email: ig@montgomerycountymd.gov