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Report Fraud

If you suspect fraud, theft, waste, abuse, or misconduct related to the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), it's important to take action to protect affordable housing. The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) investigates these issues to ensure that public resources are used properly and that everyone involved with CHA operates with integrity.

File a Complaint

How to Report Fraud, Theft, Waste, Abuse, or Misconduct

By reporting fraud, theft, waste, abuse, or misconduct, you play a crucial role in protecting affordable housing and ensuring that CHA operates with integrity.

1. Identify the Issue

First, determine if what you've witnessed falls under one of these categories:

- **Fraud:** Deceptive practices like embezzlement, false billing, or misrepresentation.
- **Theft:** The unauthorized removal of CHA property, funds, or services.
- Waste: Misuse of resources that doesn't further CHA's mission.
- **Abuse:** Actions by CHA employees, contractors, or vendors that exceed their granted authority.
- **Misconduct:** Violations of CHA policies, personnel rules, or laws that may require serious action.

2. Gather Information

Collect all relevant details about the incident. Make sure to answer these key questions:

- Who was involved? (Names, addresses, and phone numbers if available)
- What happened? (A summary of events and any supporting evidence)
- When did it happen? (Date, time, and how often it occurred)
- Where did it happen? (Location details)
- Why do you think it happened? (Possible motives)
- How did it happen? (Details of the scheme or method used)

3. Submit Your Report

Visit the <u>OIG complaint form</u> to file your report. Include all gathered information to ensure a thorough review.

4. Understand What Happens Next

- **Confidentiality:** Your identity will remain confidential unless disclosure is required by law. This helps protect you and allows for effective follow-up during the investigation.
- **Investigation Process:** The OIG will review your report to determine if it warrants an investigation. Not all reports lead to a case; some may be referred to the appropriate CHA office or another agency.
- No Updates on Case Status: Once your report is submitted, the OIG cannot provide status updates or additional information while the case is under review.
- **Final Decisions:** The OIG has the final say on whether a case will be investigated, and decisions on closing cases are final with no right to appeal.