




**MEMORANDUM  
CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY  
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL**

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**To:** Angela Hurlock, Chairperson, Board of Commissioners  
Matthew Brewer, Vice Chairperson, Finance and Audit Committee  
Tracey Scott, Chief Executive Officer  
Cheryl Burns, Chief Housing Choice Voucher Officer

**From:** Kathryn B. Richards, Inspector General 

**Date:** September 06, 2022

**Subject:** Significant OIG Activity – Sentencing of Evelyn Massey

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On Wednesday, August 31, 2022, Evelyn Massey, a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) participant, was sentenced to a period of two years in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Judge Ursula Walowski. Massey had previously pleaded guilty, on the eve of trial, to one count of wire fraud relative to a scheme to defraud the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) of more than \$188,000.

An investigation by the CHA Office of the Inspector General (OIG) revealed that from November 2000 through February 2018, Massey concealed her ownership in the property that she resided in with her CHA voucher. Massey became a CHA HCV participant in 1994. She rented a house owned by her father, which, at the time, was permitted under the program. Massey's father died in October 2000, and the home was ultimately deeded to her. Instead of notifying the CHA, Massey repeatedly submitted documents continuing to identify her father as the owner of the property and failed to disclose her ownership of the property, despite being the recorded owner and receiving a loan secured by a mortgage on the property. Massey further submitted documents directing the housing assistance payments be deposited to a bank account she controlled.

Massey was charged on January 20, 2021, with one count of Class X Felony Theft, three counts of Class 1 Felony Theft, one count of Wire Fraud (Class 4 Felony) and three counts of Forgery (Class 3 Felony). Prosecution of the matter was handled by the Illinois Attorney General's Office, Public Integrity Bureau. Senior Investigator Justin King handled the case for the CHA's OIG.

The HCV department stopped payment of Massey's voucher in 2018, but termination of the voucher was held pending the outcome of the criminal case. Massey's administrative termination hearing is scheduled for September 7, 2022.

The CHA OIG's investigation is now closed.