



## *Florida Department of Transportation*

RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

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KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.  
SECRETARY

### **POLICY**

Effective: January 14, 2021  
Review: January 6, 2021  
Office: Inspector General  
Topic No.: 001-450-003-e  
Authority: 20.055(2), (7), and  
334.048(3), F.S.

### **INTEGRITY IN GOVERNMENT**

The Florida Department of Transportation (Department) embraces the public's right to honest state government. The Department will always strive to protect public money and property and maintain a high level of vigilance for indicators of fraud or other criminality impacting the Department. Any attempt by Department employees, members of the public, contractors, subcontractors, or others to use their association with the Department to gain a financial or other benefit to which they are not properly entitled will be investigated promptly and appropriate action will be taken.

The Department will not tolerate or condone any attempt to conceal fraud or other illegal acts. All Department employees are responsible for reporting suspected or confirmed allegations of wrongdoing to their supervisor or the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Department managers who receive reports of suspected or confirmed allegations of wrongdoing must inform the OIG. No Department employee will retaliate against another employee, contractor, subcontractor, or consultant for reporting suspected or confirmed allegations of wrongdoing.

The OIG is responsible for activities that promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency in government pursuant to *Section 20.055(2), Florida Statutes (F.S.)*. To fulfill this responsibility, the Office of Inspector General conducts investigations, audits, and management reviews.

If an investigation or audit identifies reasonable grounds indicating a violation of criminal law, the OIG will notify appropriate law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies pursuant to *Section 20.055(7)(c), F.S.*, and coordinate Department assistance necessary to address the potential violation. In the event law enforcement is called to a Department office as the result of an event involving an employee, consultant, contractor or subcontractor, the OIG is to be notified as promptly as possible.

The OIG will keep the Department Secretary and the Chief Inspector General informed concerning fraud, abuses, and deficiencies related to programs and operations administered or financed by the Department. The OIG may also recommend corrective actions and report on the progress made in implementing corrective actions.

The OIG has a toll-free "Fraud Hotline" available to facilitate the reporting of possible wrongdoings (1-800-255-8099). Reports of suspected wrongdoing may also be submitted in person, by mail, or email. Additional information is available at the Inspector General's link on the Department's Internet Site or the internal Employee Portal.

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Kevin Thibault, Secretary