

# MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 2021



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INSPECTOR GENERAL

# SOCIAL MEDIA

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As Inspector General, I find, as many local officials have, that a comparatively small number of Parish residents actively engage in discourse with their government. The mission of the Inspector General is one that is done best when we can involve a cross-section of residents. This requires public awareness of the JPOIG and its mission. The reach of social media is increasing daily, and we must work to increase our presence in that space. - *David McClintock*



## Facebook

### 554 Followers

December 2021:

- Gained 5 Followers
- 518 Likes
- 13 Posts/Re-Posts
- Reached a total of 1,987 individual viewers across all posts



## Twitter

### 104 Followers

December 2021:

- Gained 1 Follower
- 10 Tweets/Re-Tweets
- 1,391 Tweet Impressions
- 640 Profile Visits

In conjunction with other forms of engagement, our goal is to develop relationships that enhance the community's ability to participate in their government, engage with the public where and how it works best for them, and ensure that all residents have a place to go if they are concerned about the actions of the Parish and its employees and officials.



## LinkedIn

### 129 Followers

December 2021:

- Gained 12 Followers
- 11 Posts
- 2,113 Post Impressions

442 Profile Visits

# AUDIT DIVISION

The audit division performs performance, operational fiscal and compliance audits with the objective of preventing fraud, waste and abuse in Parish government. Recommendations are made to strengthen internal controls over fiscal or compliance functions, or to improve the economy and efficiency of operations. There are currently five (5) audits in process, four (4) of which are expected to be publicly issued in February 2022. The Water Accounts Receivable audit is in fieldwork stage, and is expected to move to Draft Report phase in February 2022. See the table below.

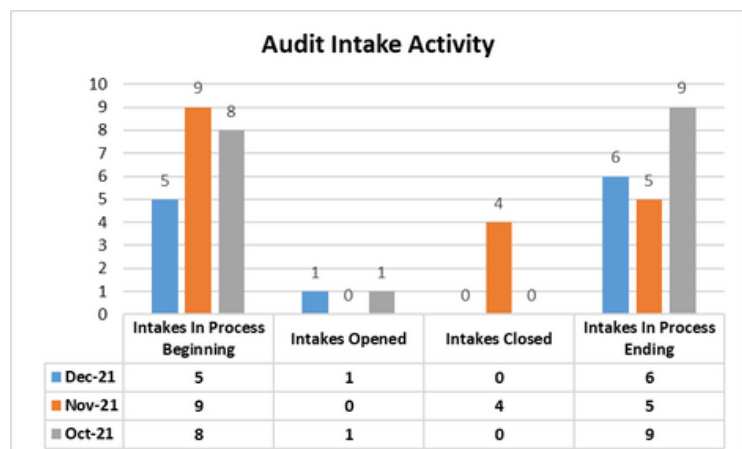
Audits in Progress												
Audit Title/Case #	Type	Objective	Dollars At Risk	Planning	Fieldwork	Draft Report	DIG Review	IG Review	Legal Review	Parish Comment	Non-Parish Comment	Public Report
Council District Improvement Funds 2019-0004	IPPF Compliant	Compliant fund expenditure & controls	\$613,000								85%	
Terrytown VFC 2021-0006	IPPF Compliant	Contract compliance, millage expenditure and controls	\$11,950								90%	
GIVFC 2021-0026	IPPF Compliant	Contract compliance, millage expenditure and controls	\$2,782,295								80%	
GIVES 2021-0027	IPPF Compliant	Contract compliance, millage expenditure and controls	\$5,603,802								N/A	
Water Accounts Receivable 2021-0009	IPPF Compliant	Collections efficiency/delinquent accounts receivable	\$25.8MM		70%							

There are currently four (4) follow-up audits in process, one of which is expected to be issued in January 2022, and another is expected to be issued in February 2022. See the table below.

Follow-Up Audits in Progress									
Follow Up Audit Title	Type	Objective	Questioned Costs	Planning	Fieldwork	Draft Report	DIG Review	IG Review	Public Report
Grand Isle IVFC 2014-0043	IPPF Compliant	To Assess Corrective Action Implementation	\$344,700						
Leased Property 2013-0013	IPPF Compliant	To Assess Corrective Action Implementation	\$4,500,000						
Security Services Contracting 2017-0027	IPPF Compliant	To Assess Corrective Action Implementation	\$3,699,813		75%				
Water Dept. Physical Security 2017-0045	IPPF Compliant	To Assess Corrective Action Implementation	\$11,220		75%				

The Audit Division does also process some incoming information. Additionally, the intake process is used to initiate a planned audit within the case management system.

December opened with five (5) open intakes and had one (1) additional intake added. There were no intake closures.

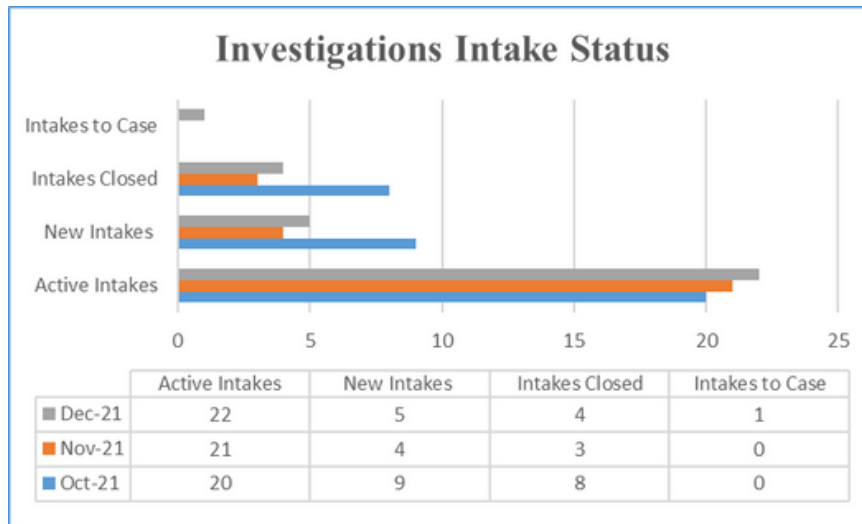


# INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

**DECEMBER 2021**

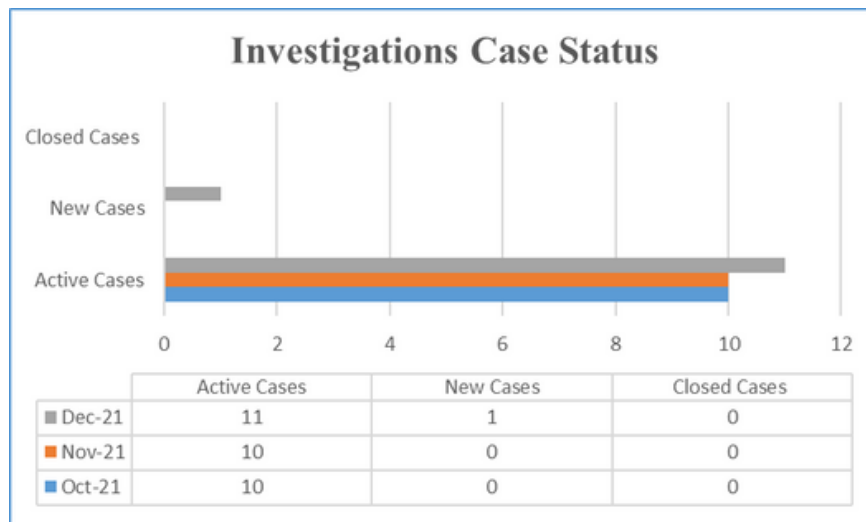
## Intakes & Preliminary Reviews

The Investigations Division is tasked with assessing incoming tips, complaints, and information. This process involves documenting the information received and conducting a limited preliminary review to consider allegations, jurisdiction, the ability to corroborate and build upon the information, as well as the potential for referral to other authorities. Generally, preliminary reviews are completed within 45 days.



## Investigative Cases

Some preliminary reviews are accepted for full investigation, thereafter referred to as a case. Cases vary in complexity and duration. Additionally, the JPOIG may work cases in cooperation with other oversight or enforcement agencies.



## **JPOIG Investigative Team Honored**

### **PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE!**

The following is based on a 2012 referral by the Metropolitan Crime Commission.



Deputy Inspector General Brian Smith accepted the Award on behalf of the team and was among awardees recognized by the Metropolitan Crime Commission for contributions to the public corruption case and resulting conviction of Jefferson Parish Justice of the Peace Patrick DeJean. The US Attorney's Office for the Western District of Louisiana prosecuted the case which returned a conviction for 13 counts of mail fraud and two counts of false statements to a bank arising from his numerous abuses of his position as a Justice of the Peace.

This truly collaborative effort was led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in collaboration with the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, Jefferson Parish Inspector General's Office, and Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, initiating an investigation into the activities of the Jefferson Parish Second Justice Court. US Attorney David Joseph and the US Attorney's Office for the Western District of Louisiana handled the prosecution, because the Eastern District was recused from the case.

At trial the US Attorney's Office presented the evidence and a jury verdict confirmed that Justice of the Peace Patrick DeJean's handling of garnishment payments constituted mail fraud, and that he defrauded a local bank through illegally obtained loans, purportedly for the 2nd Justice Court.

DeJean embezzled over \$100,000 in garnishment payments. One charged count involved a single mother who worked at K-Mart and had procured a \$1,500 loan from a payday lender to pay for her child's braces. Through DeJean's abuse of his power as Justice of the Peace, he collected approximately \$9,000 from this individual - embezzling \$7,400 of her hard-earned money.

Additionally, DeJean lied on loan applications in 2012 and 2013 to induce the bank to lend over \$50,000 to Second Justice Court. He applied for these loans on behalf of the court, despite knowing that the court was prohibited by Louisiana law from borrowing money. The evidence documented that DeJean spent both the embezzled garnishment money and bank loan proceeds on gambling, hotels, vacations, and other personal expenses.

After a 7-day trial, U.S. District Court Judge Mary Ann Vial sentenced DeJean to three years in prison, three years supervised release, and \$73,000 in restitution.

# 2021 BUDGET

The JPOIG is funded through a dedicated millage. The Parish Charter permits the JPOIG to maintain a surplus, which is referred to as a "fund balance" of no more than the amount of the prior year's millage revenue. The JPOIG is the only millage revenue department that has a limit on the fund balance.

The budget is prepared annually by the Inspector General and incorporates the fiscal needs of the Jefferson Parish Ethics and Compliance Commission(JPECC). The JPECC approves the budget and advises the Parish Department of Finance. This process supports meaningful independence for the JPOIG and the JPECC.

The JPOIG performed well during the FY 2021 budget cycle. Current data reflects that expenses were slightly under those budgeted and that we will realize a modest increase to the fund balance of approximately \$26K.

<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>		\$1,265,392.91	
<b>2021 Revenues (as of 01/15/2022)</b>		\$1,416,869.96	
<b>2021 Expenditures as of 01/14/2021</b>			
JPECC	\$23,283.68		
JPOIG	<u>\$1,367,254.02</u>		
<b>Combined Total</b>	<b>\$1,390,537.70</b>	<b>\$1,390,537.70</b>	
			<b>Fund Balance +/-</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance 01/14/2022</b>		<b>\$1,291,725.17</b>	<b>\$26,332.26</b>

## 2021 Actuals - Revenue \$1,416,869

