

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject

Zero Tolerance for Fraud in County Programs and Services

**Policy
Number**

A-120

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Purpose

To establish a policy throughout the County of San Diego that fraud will not be tolerated in County government.

Background

The Board of Supervisors and County Officials strive to protect against all improprieties in public programs and services. Integrity in the administration of County programs and services must exist to ensure the public's trust. Numerous actions have been taken to prevent and deter fraud and abuse which demonstrate commitment to protecting the public's interest in essential public programs and services. This policy declares the Board of Supervisors' intent that there shall be Zero Tolerance for fraud in County programs and services.

Definitions

Fraud is a knowing misrepresentation of the truth or concealment of a material fact to induce another to act to his or her detriment.

Zero Tolerance means County officials will not tolerate fraud in County government and shall take appropriate action, up to and including removal of an officer, employee, or volunteer from County service and cancellation of a contract, when a party to the contract has committed fraud in connection with that contract.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

1. There shall be Zero Tolerance for fraud committed by County officers, employees, and volunteers. There shall also be Zero Tolerance for fraud committed by independent contractors, vendors and consultants, (hereinafter collectively referred to as "contractors") in the administration of County programs and the provision of services for or to the County. This Zero Tolerance for Fraud Policy shall be reflected in all County programs, including legislative activity, eligibility procedures, applicant identification, employee training, contract agreements and supervision.

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2. Appointing Authorities of the County will not tolerate fraud in County government and shall take appropriate action, up to and including removal from County service, when any officer, employee or volunteer of the County commits fraud in connection with the administration of County programs or the provision of services for or to the County.

3. Agreements that provide for contractors to administer County programs or provide services for or to the County shall include a provision for the cancellation of the contract by the County when there is a proven instance of fraud committed by a contractor in connection with its performance under the contract. The appropriate County officials overseeing these contracts will not tolerate fraud in County government and shall take appropriate action, up to and including the cancellation of contracts, when contractors are found to have committed fraud in connection with their performance under the contract.

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by December 31, 2023.

Board Action

June 21, 1994 Adopted Policy A-120

6-15-04 (25)

6-17-08 (24)

12-09-08 (33)

12-08-09 (32)

10-18-16 (15)

CAO Reference

1. Chief Administrative Office
2. Office of Ethics and Compliance