GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Office of the Inspector General

Inspector General



September 4, 2019

The Honorable Muriel E. Bowser Mayor District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mayor's Correspondence Unit, Suite 316 Washington, D.C. 20004

Re:

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT

Control Number 2018-1359

Dear Mayor Bowser:

On August 30, 2019, Michele Sims, a member of the public, was sentenced in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to seven (7) months incarceration (suspended); 5 years unsupervised probation; and ordered to pay a \$100 court assessment fee for defrauding the Department of Employment Services (DOES). In addition, the court ordered Ms. Sims to pay restitution in the amount of \$19,526.00.

An OIG investigation revealed that from June 15, 2013, through July 29, 2017, Ms. Sims engaged in a scheme to defraud DOES by submitting fraudulent claims to obtain unemployment compensation benefits while employed. On May 29, 2019, Ms. Sims pled guilty to one count of Second Degree Felony Fraud, in violation of D.C. Code § 22-3221(b).

If any additional information is needed, please contact me or Bernadette Todd, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations at (202) 727-2540 or <u>bernadette.todd@dc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Lucas Inspector General

DWL/dvs

cc: See Distribution List

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Mr. Rashad M. Young, City Administrator, District of Columbia (via email) The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia (via email)

The Honorable Elisa Silverman, Chairperson, Committee on Labor and Workforce Development (via email)

Dr. Unique Morris-Hughes, Director, Department of Employment Services (via email)