



## **Whistleblower Hotline Report As of June 30, 2022**

The San Luis Obispo County Whistleblower Hotline was established in November 2013 to provide a mechanism by which employees and citizens may contribute to the accountability, transparency, and oversight of the County by reporting suspected financial fraud, waste, and abuse. From inception in November 2013 through June 30, 2022, the Whistleblower Hotline received 296 reports.

The Whistleblower Hotline includes a toll-free hotline number (855-326-9623) and website ([reportlineweb.com/sanluisobispo](http://reportlineweb.com/sanluisobispo)) which are accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are administered by an independent hotline provider. Reports may be submitted anonymously.

Reports received are reviewed by the County's Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector and the Internal Audit Division in conjunction with County Counsel, Human Resources, and Department Heads, as appropriate.

4 reports were received in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of Fiscal Year 2021-22, ending June 30, 2022.

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter reports received related to the following categories:

- Violation of Federal, State, City, or County Regulation (2)
- Misconduct (1)
- Safety (1)

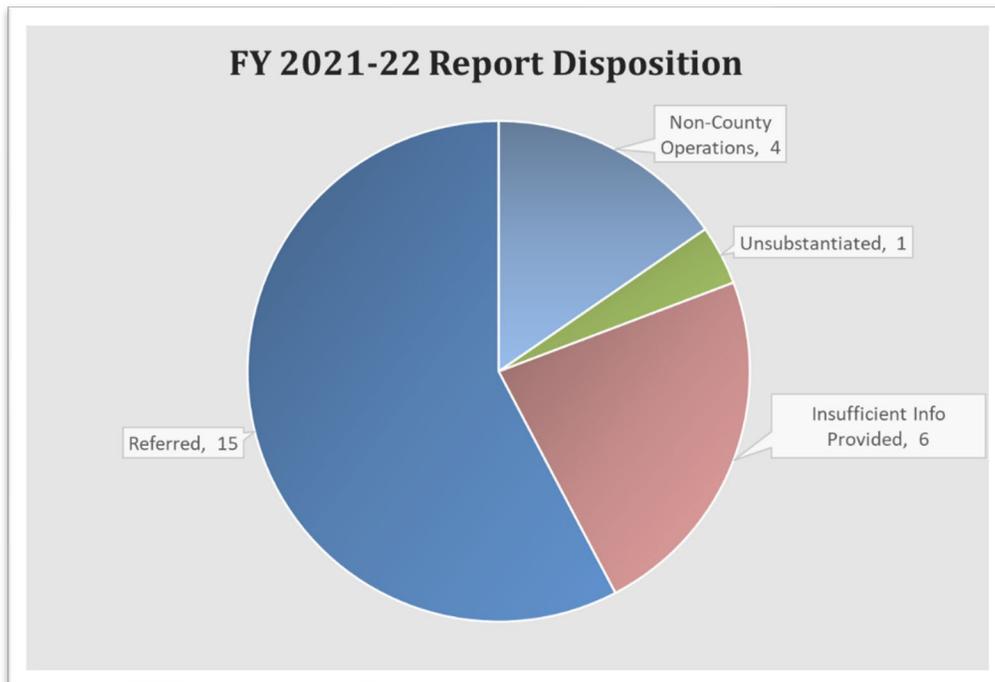
The disposition of the 4 cases includes:

- One was referred to Human Resources.
- Three had insufficient information to investigate.

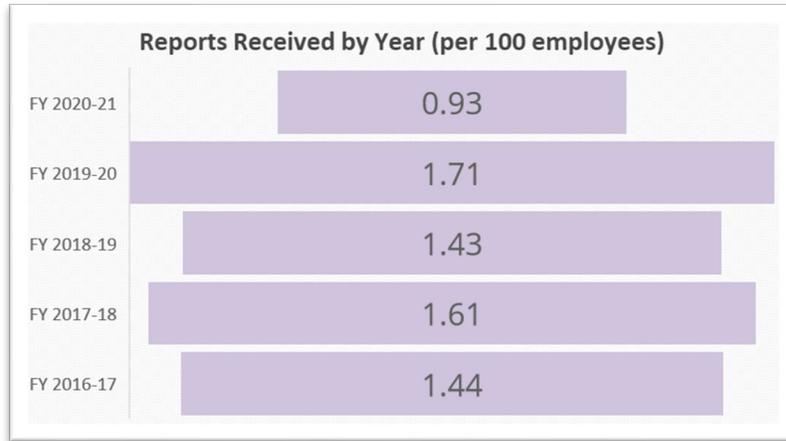
In Fiscal Year 2021-22 the Whistleblower Hotline received 26 reports, a 45% decrease from the prior year's 48 reports. The majority of the reports related to a violation of a federal, state, city, or county regulation.



58% of the reports received were referred to other County departments. Twenty-five of the twenty-six total reports were received directly through the Whistleblower Hotline. One was received through the County's phone system. 69% of the reports were submitted anonymously.



In Fiscal Year 2021-22, there were 0.93 whistleblower reports received per 100 County employees. This is less than the industry average for 2021 of 1.3 reports<sup>1</sup> per 100 employees.



The San Luis Obispo County Whistleblower Program improves controls and promotes accountability and oversight throughout the County through the identification of potential fraud, waste, and abuse.

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Industry benchmark was reported by Navex Global, the County's third-party hotline administrator, and is for calendar year 2021.