



## **Whistleblower Hotline Report As of June 30, 2023**

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, 2023, the Whistleblower Hotline received 316 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 2022-23, ending June 30, 2023.

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

- Theft, Waste and Abuse (1)
- Misconduct (1)
- Safety (2)

The disposition of the 4 cases includes:

- One was referred to Human Resources.
- One was referred to the appropriate Department Head.
- One was referred to Human Resources and the appropriate Department Head.
- One was related to non-County Operations and was referred to an outside agency.

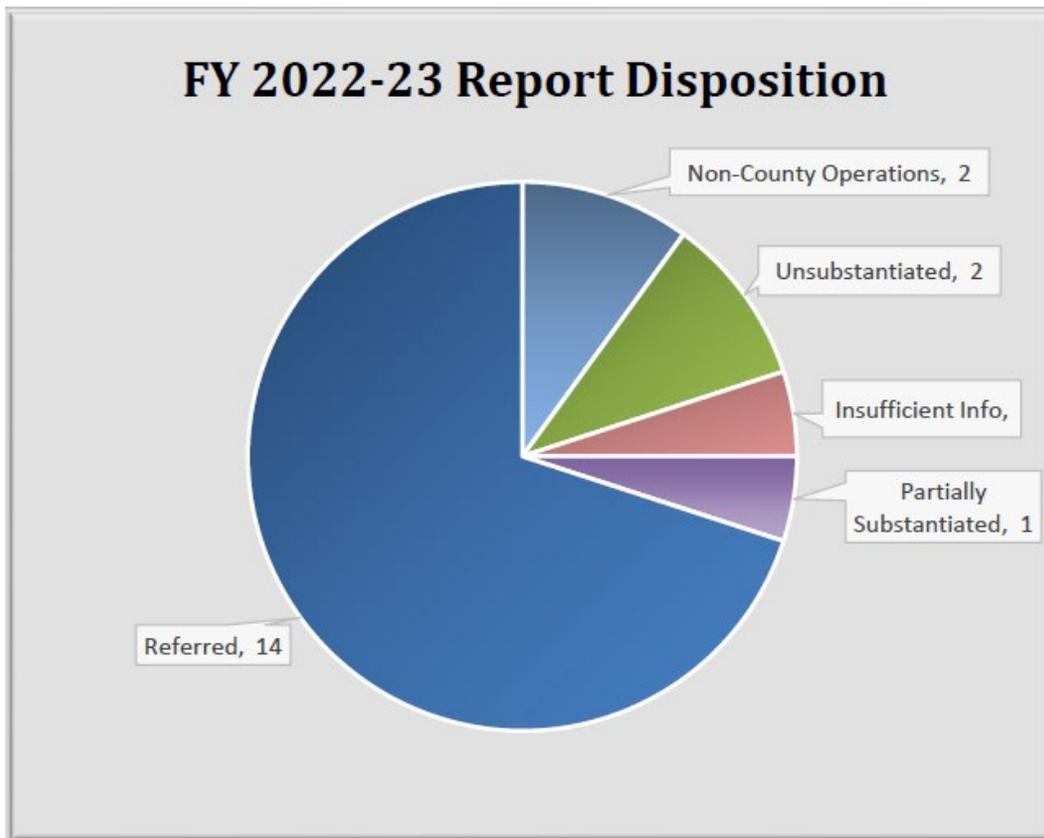
In Fiscal Year 2022-23 the Whistleblower Hotline received 20 reports, a 23% decrease from the prior year's 26 reports. The majority of the reports related to misconduct.

## FY 2022-23 Whistleblower Reports by Type



70% of the reports received were referred to other County departments. One report, which related to Code Enforcement violations in Nipomo, was partially substantiated. All twenty reports were received directly through the Whistleblower Hotline. 14 of the 20 reports received were submitted anonymously.

## FY 2022-23 Report Disposition



In Fiscal Year 2022-23, there were 0.68 whistleblower reports received per 100 County employees. This is less than the industry average for 2022 of 1.47 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. The Whistleblower Program contributes to the County’s vision of a well-governed community.

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Industry benchmark was reported by Navex Global, the County’s third-party hotline administrator, and is for calendar year 2022.