



## Ken Burke, CPA

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER  
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA


Clerk of the County Court  
Recorder of Deeds  
Clerk and Accountant of the Board of County Commissioners  
Custodian of County Funds  
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## Division of Inspector General

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### REPORT NO. 2017-35

TO: Holly Schoenherr, Director  
Human Resources Department

FROM: Hector Collazo Jr., Inspector General/Chief Audit Executive  
Division of Inspector General 

DIST: Ken Burke, CPA, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller  
Tim Closterman, Human Resources Officer, Human Resources

SUBJECT: Investigation of Credit Report Compromise

DATE: December 21, 2017

The Division of Inspector General's Public Integrity Unit (PIU) received an allegation of Fraud, Waste and Abuse. We investigated the following allegation related to a compromised credit report.

The complainant alleges that a Pinellas County employee:

- Performed a credit check without a legitimate business need.

The complainant did provide documentation to assist with the investigation.

To determine whether the allegation was substantiated, we reviewed policies, procedures, and any other records deemed appropriate. We also conducted interviews of staff and other parties, as needed. Our investigation was performed according to the *Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General* and *The Florida Inspectors General Standards Manual* from The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.



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The Division of Inspector General's investigation of the allegation has determined that the allegation noted above is *unfounded*, as there is no credible evidence to support the allegation.

On October 17, 2017, the Division of Inspector General was notified that a Pinellas County employee's (complainant) credit report was accessed through TransUnion by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for employment purposes. As the complainant has worked for Pinellas County for over two years, there was concern that there was no justification for accessing the credit report information.

Review of the complainant's Credit Journey TransUnion documentation, including credit inquiry history, showed that the credit monitoring service notification of a credit inquiry was misinterpreted. Employment information was provided by a company that requested the complainant's credit report, as this is a requirement for verification purposes. There were no credit inquiry requests made by the Pinellas County BCC.

We want to thank Human Resources staff and the complainant for their assistance and cooperation during this investigation.