

PI 19-07

MEMORANDUM

TO: Felix Jimenez, Deputy Inspector General  
FROM: Sylvia Batista, Investigator, Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics  
RE: David Hillard, Water & Sewer Maintenance Supervisor, et al.  
DATE: March 8, 2019

**CASE  
CLOSED**

Date: 3/20/19  
Referred to OIG. JMS

Armando Fraga, a Plant Maintenance Mechanic in the South Miami Heights facility of the Water & Sewer Department, contacted the COE with information regarding fraud, theft and hazardous practices by his supervisor, David Hillard (Hillard) and co-workers, including Vance Miller, Plant Maintenance Mechanic.

Mr. Fraga described the activities taking place under Hillard's watch as follows:

- Stealing diesel fuel by cutting the sensors and filling fuel cans for his personal use.
- Stacking time to his overtime and the overtime of his favorite employees, Vance Miller (Miller) and Paul Baker (Baker). This is done by inflating the time allowed per call.
- Allows subordinates Miller and Baker, access to his computer and use of his payroll code to book time while not at work and approve it for themselves;
- Miller and Baker change the code on Hillard's computer to receive ten (10) percent more pay per hour. Mr. Fraga said that he and other employees have witnessed this.
- Fraga alleged that Hillard granted eight (8) hours of AH (holiday/hurricane time) to employee #00206579 when all other County employees got four (4) hours on 12/31/18.
- Fraga was banned from the office that he used to share with Hillard by Eddy Roy Lucas (Lucas), Assistant Superintendent at the WASD Westwood Lakes facility. Hillard urged Lucas to do this because he felt uncomfortable with Fraga being in the office when he was not there. This decision hinders Fraga from doing his job. Located in the office are the charging stations for the gas monitors and the gas monitors themselves and the charging station for the portable handheld radios. This decision by Lucas, who is upper management, prohibits his access to essential safety equipment and could lead to catastrophic consequences to employees' health.
- On 11/02/18, favored employee Miller submitted a work order for 4 hours of work in the shop despite not being in the shop all day. He and employee Leo Romero witnessed Miller's absence on that day. Miller stole time again on 11/16/18 when he went home at 2:00 p.m. and got paid until 4:00 p.m.
- On 11/16/18 Steve Ramnath received jury duty time although he was not on jury duty.
- Hillard has let Fraga sit in the shop waiting to receive his work assignment which Hillard has refused to give him. Fraga said that there are witnesses to this.

Mr. Fraga said that he has been with the County for 38 years. His cellular is (305) 992-9590.