



## OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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*Inspector General*

### NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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#### Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service Monitoring Overtime for COVID-19 Testing

Rockville, Maryland – Montgomery County Maryland Inspector General Megan Davey Limarzi announced today the release of an Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report, [\*MCFRS Alleged Abuse of Overtime for COVID-19 Testing, OIG Report # 22-011\*](#), detailing the results of an investigation into allegations that some vaccinated Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS) employees were exploiting COVID-19 testing provisions to obtain overtime pay. The OIG was not able to substantiate the allegation but observed that policy in place during the period examined could have been manipulated to allow a vaccinated employee to engage in the alleged misconduct. MCFRS has since changed the subject policy and no longer allows employees to claim overtime for testing.

Following discussions with the OIG, MCFRS management conducted a review of timesheets where overtime for testing was claimed and identified five employees who each received one hour of overtime to which they were not entitled. MCFRS initiated payroll actions to correct the erroneous payments.

The OIG recommended MCFRS expedite efforts to eliminate the need for overtime for weekly COVID-19 testing. The Chief Administrative Officer concurred with the recommendation and noted that MCFRS had implemented a new process and was no longer allowing overtime for testing.

The full report can be found at the following location,  
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OIG/Resources/Files/PDF/IGActivity/FY2022/MemoInvestigationMCFRSOvertimeCOVIDTesting.pdf>

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