

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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NEWS RELEASE

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OIG Finds Issues with Police Department's Use of Grant Funds

Rockville, Maryland – Montgomery County Maryland Inspector General Megan Davey Limarzi announced today the release of a new Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Memorandum of Investigation, *Allegations of misuse of PACT Grant Funds*, OIG Publication # OIG-24-12, detailing the results of an OIG Investigation into the Montgomery County Department of Police's (MCPD) use of Maryland Police Accountability, Community, and Transparency Grant Program (PACT) funds. The Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) awards PACT grants to support law enforcement agencies with the development of "effective accountability procedures to achieve their goals of lawfulness and legitimacy while enhancing community relations and transparency."

The county received \$498,000 in PACT grants in fiscal year 2023 to procure a body worn camera system and the necessary software to managing the camera system. All funds were required to be used prior to the end of the grant period which ran through June 2023. The investigation found that at the end of June 2023, MCPD paid \$396,000 for 30 months of professional services that had not yet been performed and were expected to be received in future fiscal years. In doing so, they violated the county's accounts payable policy which prohibits the payment of invoices for goods or services not yet received, and GOCPP's intended use of PACT grant funds.

The OIG's findings were reported to the County's Chief Administrative Officer and were shared with GOCPP for whatever action they deem appropriate.

The full report can be found at:

 $\frac{https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OIG/Resources/Files/PDF/IGActivity/FY2024/MOI-FY23PACT-GrantSpending.pdf}{}$

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