

In May of 2005 I meet with Mr. Feistman, also with me at this meeting was Raul Martinez my first line supervisor at the time. I requested this meeting so that I could present to Mr. Feistman my preliminary findings in the audit of Lolita Cuevas. At this meeting he was shown purchase orders and invoices/receipts of the Items that I questioned as not authorized. Items that Lolita Cuevas said were authorized by Mr. Feistman. Mr. Feistman reviewed the documents showing exactly what was ordered and acknowledged that he had in fact authorized the procurements.

On an email that I initiated dated June 8th requesting information from Lolita Cuevas in regards to her credit card audit he replied stating that the expenditures were not inappropriate. Copies of this email are included in my final audit.

Mr. Feistman knew exactly what was procured from the first time I meet with him, Door Prizes. I made sure he knew exactly what was procured because he was the Billing Officer for the Credit Card Program and he had personally approved of these procurements. Procurements that I knew could not be authorized. For him to state that he did not know is simply not true.

During the period of May through Oct. 2005 I meet with Mr. Feistman many times regarding my audit of Lolita Cuevas, I also meet with the Associate Director Dr. Angell on several occasions and Medical Center Director Mr. Norby once. At this meeting I briefed him on my audit and Mr. Feistman's involvement and position regarding the procurements and my position that the procurements could not be authorized. He asked me some questions that I could not answer decisively but I told him I would research the matter thoroughly and submit my audit as soon as possible.

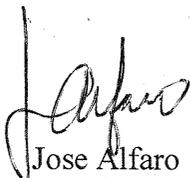
On October 28th 2005 as I said I would, I submitted my audit of Lolitas Cuevas. I personally delivered a copy of the audit to Mr. Charles Feistman and Dr. Susan Angell. When I gave the copy of the audit to Dr. Angell I asked her to please forward the copy to Mr. Norby as soon as possible. Shortly after that I was notified that my unit was being activated and I reported to Camp Pendleton the first week of Jan 2006.

I returned to work at the VA ten months later in October of 2006. When I returned I discovered that not only had no one acted on my audit but I had been replaced as Manager of the Credit Card Program which is in violation of VA regulations.

The Department of Labor refused to take my complaint under the U.S.E.R.R.A. act but The Office of Special Counsel did accept and investigate my report of violations of Law Rule and Regulation.

If the penalty for violating regulations and then lying about it is a verbal counseling so be it. But if something was missed if the punishment doesn't fit the crime than I hope that someone who reads this will do something to correct it.

I also question the appointment of Mr. Ronald J Larson to investigate this matter, a fellow Chief Financial Officer at a sister facility within Network 22. A colleague of Mr. Fiestman's and possibly a close friend? How could the basic facts be ignored or omitted, how could my testimony be so misconstrued? If I did in fact fail in my duties as the Credit Card Program Manager because I didn't follow through I hope some one will show me were I failed so that I may better myself. One last question why wasn't Raul Martinez my first line supervisor at the time questioned under oath. The one person I kept appraised of everything, who was in agreement of my findings and can corroborate everything I have said?


Jose Alfaro

1-22-08