

## OFAC Investigation

Case #INV-014-17, August 2017

The New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (“OFAC”) conducted an investigation of the South Bergen Jointure Commission (“SBJC”) regarding the conduct of the Superintendent of Schools. In August 2017, OFAC issued a report which contained the following findings of the Investigation:

1. **Issue:** Dr. Fidanza creating new job titles and transferring her daughter, Julia Fidanza, without the Board approval.

**Conclusion:** Dr. Fidanza transferred Julia Fidanza from the transportation office to the business office without the Board approval and did not inform the ECS of the transfer from the position for which the ECS initially approved.

2. **Issue:** Dr. Fidanza purported actions in regard to Julia Fidanza’s performance evaluations.

**Conclusion:** Based upon the interviews of Julia Fidanza’s supervisors, Dr. Fidanza spoke to both of them regarding their respective evaluations of Julia Fidanza and attempted to influence the evaluations of Julia Fidanza.

3. **Issue:** Dr. Fidanza’s covering the lenses of surveillance cameras.

**Conclusion:** Dr. Fidanza covered the lenses of the security cameras in the SBA’s office and in the office of Ms. Owens, where her daughter also worked, so that co-workers could not see “the comings and goings of her daughter,” Julia Fidanza.

4. **Issue:** Use of profanity in front of staff members in the administrative offices of the SBJC.

**Conclusion:** Dr. Fidanza, by her own admission, used profane language in the presence of the SBJC employees.

Based on the evidence obtained during the investigation, OFAC also concluded that the SBJC did not violate any educational statutes or regulations.

Susan Cucciniello  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Meeting Date: 9/20/2017