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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BATON ROUGE -- Today, the State Inspector General's Office issued a report detailing its investigation into Louisiana Workforce, LLC, a private company that contracts with parish sheriffs to operate inmate work release facilities under the authority of the Louisiana Department of Corrections (DOC). The investigation revealed that certain employees of Louisiana Workforce altered dates and forged signatures on Employer's Work Release Agreements, which are required by DOC whenever state inmates participate in privately managed work release programs. The forms were altered in advance of a DOC site audit scheduled for August 12, 2010.

Upon receiving credible information that documents were forged, OIG investigators obtained a search warrant for the Louisiana Workforce location at the East Baton Rouge Parish Prison and seized all inmate and employer files. An extensive review of the Employer's Work Release Agreement forms revealed that approximately 68 documents appear to have been altered. Louisiana Workforce Assistant Warden Reggie Felker admitted in an interview that he altered at least 26

of the documents to make them appear to be authentic so that they would pass inspection by the DOC auditors.

Edward Boeker, warden of Louisiana Workforce's East Baton Rouge location, supervises Mr. Felker. Mr. Boeker admitted that he directed Mr. Felker to generate these documents to prevent Louisiana Workforce from receiving an unfavorable audit from the Department of Corrections. Mr. Felker stated that he altered the documents at the direction of Mr. Boeker after they determined that there was insufficient time to obtain legitimate signatures on the required forms.

Inspector General Stephen Street said: "Although there appears to have been no monetary fraud, the obvious intent in forging these documents was to deceive DOC auditors in order to avoid negative audit findings. And they succeeded. It is especially troubling that persons so closely connected with law enforcement would do something like this."

The Inspector General's report makes several recommendations to address the issues raised in its investigation. The Inspector General explained: "There should be zero tolerance for this sort of dishonesty by those who do business with the state. Fortunately, the owner of Louisiana Work Force cooperated fully with the OIG investigation, and it appears that steps have already been taken to make sure this sort of thing doesn't happen again."

To obtain the full report, follow this link:

<http://oig.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/reports/CID-11-009.pdf>