OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

NEWS

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH – GOVERNOR

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CONTACTS:
Cheryle Jackson 312/814.3158
Abby Ottenhoff 312/814.3158
Gerardo Cardenas 312/814.3158

Statement from Abby Ottenhoff, Spokesperson for Gov. Blagojevich
On letter released today by Attorney General Madigan

"When we came into office we began to reform a system that was difficult to change. Under immense pressure to pad the payroll, we instead cut it by more than 13,000. With that said, we did have to hire people to help run state government. Among those we hired there were some bad apples who violated the rules. The systems we put in place in our first year helped ferret out this wrongdoing. We insisted on an independent Inspector General for precisely this purpose. We've acted on those IG recommendations up to and including termination, and where appropriate, referred them to the US Attorney for criminal investigation. We will continue pursuing those who would break the rules."

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