



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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State and Federal Efforts Combine to Fight Unemployment Insurance Fraud

Collection efforts will allow for recovery of millions in fraudulent UI payments

The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) is joining forces with the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General (OIG) in an effort to combat unemployment insurance fraud.

This combination of state and federal resources will lead to the investigation and prosecution of more unemployment insurance overpayment cases, in both state and federal court. The joined efforts will also increase efficiency through the limitation of duplicate state and federal efforts.

To date, the DEW has identified claimants who have received fraudulent overpayments above \$10,000, and the total potential overpayment recovery for those cases is an estimated \$2.5 million.

Additional cases with overpayments above \$10,000 have been identified and referred to the OIG's office for investigation and prosecution, and the total potential overpayment recovery for those cases is approximately \$1 million.

“This partnership with the Office of Inspector General is demonstrative of how serious we are here at the DEW about identifying and prosecuting those who have malicious intent to defraud the unemployment insurance system,” said DEW Executive Director Abraham Turner.

Turner said the agency has increased its marketing and public relations' efforts to ensure we are diligent in preventing, detecting and collecting all overpayment of unemployment insurance benefits.

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