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Allegation of Ineligible Senior Corps Volunteer (Unsubstantiated) / Failure to Complete Background Checks (Founded) Case ID: 2017-008

DATE ISSUED 04.19.2017

Closed 2017-04-19

This investigation was initiated after CNCS program personnel discovered during a compliance monitoring visit that a Senior Companion Program (SCP) volunteer in Delaware may have failed to report his prior sex offense convictions to the State of Delaware making him ineligible to serve.

CNCS management reported that the volunteer enrolled in the SCP on May 19, 2015; however, program officials did not conduct a National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW) search until June 12, 2015. Program officials reviewed the NSOPW results and determined that none of the individuals listed was the volunteer. Both FBI and Delaware State Criminal History Checks (CHC) were initiated on March 27, 2015. The state check came back with negative results on April 10, 2015. Before the FBI results were returned in early September 2016, the volunteer resigned from the program on June 30, 2016. The FBI results found that the volunteer had three sexual offense convictions that occurred prior to 1982 in North Carolina.

The investigation found that the volunteer had a legal obligation to report his prior convictions to the State of Delaware to determine if he was required to register with the state's public sex offender registry. Since there was no evidence to prove or disprove that the volunteer complied with the requirement, CNCS management disallowed the cost.

CNCS program personnel also found that the grantee, First State Community Action Agency, was noncompliant when it failed to conduct timely and/or complete NSOPWs and CHCs for numerous staff and volunteers. CNCS disallowed costs and required improvements to the grantee's policies and training.

Agency/Administrative Action: As a result of the compliance visit findings, CNCS management disallowed \$3,884.24 for the alleged ineligible volunteer and \$15,625 for the late or incomplete background checks. CNCS also required the grantee to update its staff and volunteer files.

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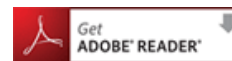


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