

# PRESS RELEASE



## WRF Release Results of Forensic Report

**For Immediate Release:**

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**DES MOINES, IOWA – Wednesday, July 11, 2018** – Pursuant to Iowa Code Section 11.14(b) notice is provided of a Forensic Investigation Report conducted by RSM US LLP that has been filed with the state auditor and is on file with the Des Moines City Clerk. RSM was retained to perform procedures to validate identified instances of misappropriation, theft, or embezzlement by a City employee assigned to the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF). The former employee plead guilty to 2nd degree fraudulent practice, a felony, in Polk County District Court. WRF Administrative Coordinator Sharon Norris was hired by the City of Des Moines in 1994 and was assigned to the WRF where her duties included payroll entry. In late 2016, it was discovered that Norris was crediting herself with overtime into the City’s timekeeping system that she did not actually work. Upon deeper investigation by police, it was determined that she also was not debiting sick and vacation time as used. The fraud occurred when Norris changed her time after her supervisor compared her time entered into the system against her time sheet but before the final batch was approved. This impropriety resulted in overpayments of \$62,258.48 over four years. Norris was terminated from employment on December 2, 2016. The City of Des Moines immediately responded to the discovery by working with the WRF to tighten its time keeping process. Specifically, managers now verify individual time entered at final approval. An independent accounting review of other WRF employees and an internal audit of other City employees found no other discrepancies

For more information, contact the City of Des Moines Public Information Office at (515) 283-4057.

### **About the City of Des Moines**

The City of Des Moines: Iowa’s capital city and local government servicing more than 217,000 residents, 51+ neighborhoods, over 4000 acres of parkland and 81 miles of trails. The City of Des Moines stands to be a financially strong city with exceptional city services, fostering an involved community in a customer friendly atmosphere. Visit <http://www.dmgov.org/>, Facebook <http://facebook.com/DesMoinesGov> and Twitter @DesMoinesGov for more information.

