



A Special Investigations Unit Report on
The Texas Education Agency

John Keel, CPA

January 11, 2012

Members of the Legislative Audit Committee:

The State Auditor's Office's Special Investigations Unit investigated allegations that the former executive director of the Asian Chamber of Commerce (ACOC) of Austin submitted false payroll records to the Texas Education Agency (Agency) for reimbursement of payroll expenses through an English Literacy and Civics Education grant.

The results of that investigation led to the Public Integrity Unit of the Travis County District Attorney's Office obtaining an indictment for Mai Nguyen on December 16, 2011. The indictment of Ms. Nguyen charges her with securing execution of a document by deception, with a value of \$20,000 or more but less than \$100,000. That is a third-degree felony.

The English Literacy and Civics Education grants that the Agency administers enable grantees to create programs to teach immigrants English and American government. The ACOC received grants between 2002 to 2005, and it operated as a nonprofit in Austin until 2006.

If you have any questions, please contact Blythe Valenzuela, Senior Investigator, or me at (512) 936-9500.

Sincerely,

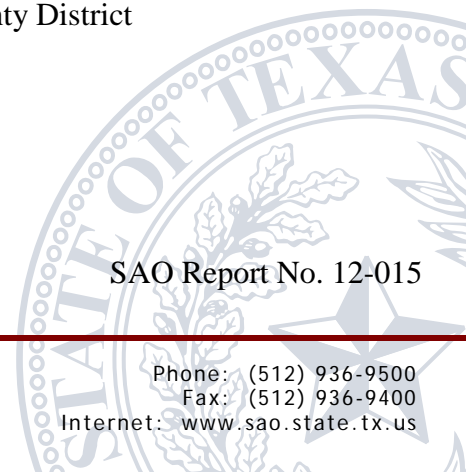
John Keel, CPA
State Auditor

cc: The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor of Texas
Mr. Robert Scott, Commissioner, Texas Education Agency
The Honorable Rosemary Lehmborg, Travis County District Attorney
Mr. Gregg Cox, Director, Special Prosecution Division, Travis County District Attorney's Office

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