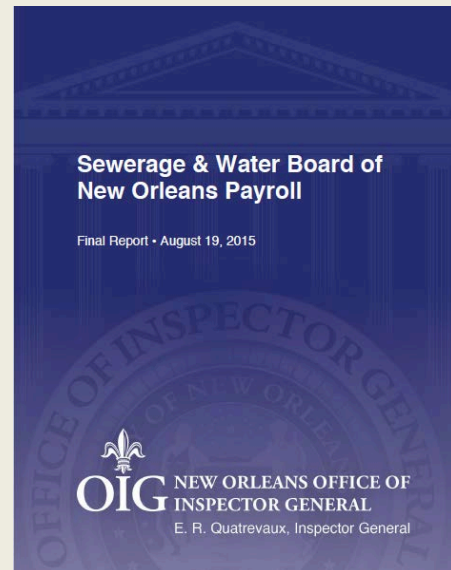


## AUDIT FINDS EXCESSIVE OVERTIME AND STANDBY PAY FOR SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD EMPLOYEES

The OIG released its [Sewerage & Water Board Payroll report](#) August 19. The audit found in 2013 the S&WB paid its workers \$1.5 million in standby pay and a projected \$3 million in overtime pay in violation of Civil Service rules and the Louisiana Constitution.

Auditors also found S&WB management did not effectively budget for or monitor overtime, spending \$9.4 million on overtime, exceeding its overtime budget by \$4.8 million.



The report noted five employees logged regular, overtime, and on-call hours ranging from 19.3 to an impossible 26.5 hours every day in 2013. The OIG recommended S&WB discontinue standby pay and evaluate crew size and staffing levels to eliminate the need for employees to be “on call.” The OIG also recommended S&WB managers develop controls to ensure employees are working within overtime limits permitted by Civil Service and within the utility’s approved budget. S&WB leadership acknowledged the overtime problem and said it was working to design controls on overtime authorization.

Read news coverage of the report in [The New Orleans Advocate](#).