

ADVERTISEMENT

NOT LOGGED IN

SIGN UP NOW!

REGISTER | LOG IN

# 2theadvocate.com

Produced by The Advocate and WBRZ News 2 Louisiana 

SEARCH:

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Business](#) | [Features](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Weather](#) | [Photos](#) | [Calendars](#) | [WBRZ](#) | [Advocate](#) | [Obits](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Wheels](#) | [Classifieds](#)

[Blogs](#) | [Video](#) | [Traffic](#) | [Columnists](#) | [AP News](#) | [Gas Prices](#) | [Lottery](#) | [Contact Info](#) | [Site Registration](#) | [Online Archives](#) | [Newspaper Archives](#) | [Site Map](#)

Wednesday, April 28, 2010 [The Advocate eEdition](#) | [Wedding Forms](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [Text Alerts](#) | [Mobile](#) | [RSS](#) | [Twitter](#)

[2theadvocate](#) > [News](#)

ADVERTISEMENTS [CLICK HERE TO ADVERTISE](#)

## NEWS

### State report questions overtime pay at center

By **MARSHA SHULER**  
 Advocate Capitol News Bureau  
 Published: Apr 28, 2010 - Page: 10A

[Comments \(0\)](#)

[Print](#) | 
 [Email](#) | 
 [Save](#) | 
 [Reprints](#) | 
 [Twitter](#) | 
 [Share](#)

An inspector general's report issued Tuesday questioned whether employees at a state-run developmental center in Ruston worked massive amounts of overtime for which they got paid.

Ten employees with the state Department of Health and Hospitals Northeast Supports and Services Center received \$407,000 for more than 23,000 hours of questionable overtime in 2008, the report said.

The center is targeted for closure Dec. 31 as part of DHH downsizing efforts.

"The excessive number of hours of overtime reported for a select number of employees of Northeast suggests that these employees may not actually be working the reported number of hours, that they may not be awake and alert while at work, or some combination of both," according to the report from State Inspector General Stephen Street.

The inspector general recommended — among other things — that overtime be limited so that the staff would be better rested to care for residents with special needs, that additional staff be hired and that a better monitoring system be implemented.

The Inspector General's Office conducted a review of the overtime situation after a WAFB-TV story, which highlighted

**The Advocate & WBRZ Channel 2**  
 present  
  
 Click for more information!

#### Capitol News Bureau

[Louisiana Politics Blog](#)

 The latest news on the Louisiana Legislature and the governor. The Advocate Capitol News Bureau delivers timely and unique insights into the political comings and goings around the state and in the capitol.

#### Louisiana Government Links

- [Louisiana Governor's Office](#)
- [Louisiana Lt. Governor's Office](#)
- [Louisiana Legislature](#)
- [Louisiana Attorney General](#)
- [Louisiana Secretary of State](#)
- [Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry](#)
- [Dept. of Public Safety](#)

**BRETT / ROBINSON**

*Come Hangout with Us!*

[Packages Available, Click Here](#)

**Phoenix All Suites Hotel**  
 Overlooking **The Hangout Music Festival**  
 Gulf Shores, AL • May 14th, 15th, and 16th

Dept. of Transportation and Development

the people and agencies with the most overtime in 2008.

DHH Deputy Secretary Tony Keck said the agency did its own review and found that “almost all of the overtime (at Northeast) was verified through documentation that could only have occurred had the employee been present and on duty.”

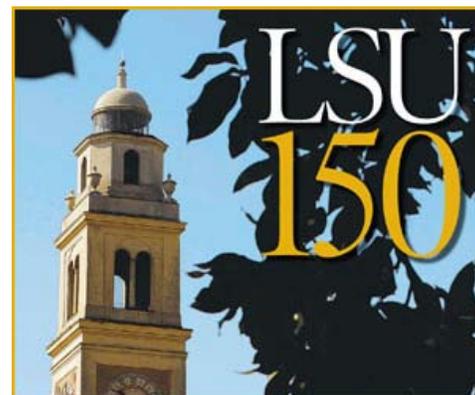
The state health agency has implemented new restrictions on overtime — limiting it to no more than 32 hours a pay period, Keck said. Exceptions can be made.

Ten employees routinely reported that they worked more than 16 hours a day, worked back to back days with less than six hours off between shifts, and worked as many as 82 days straight.

Time entered in a statewide data base did not always match the timesheets completed by the employees, the report said.

PROMOTIONS

[CLICK TO VIEW PROMOTIONS](#)



Comments (0)

SUBMIT A COMMENT

[Terms of Use](#)

Login or register to post a comment.

Most Popular

Most Emailed

Hot Topics

1. Coast Guard considers lighting oil spill on fire
2. Police and fire briefs for April 27, 2010
3. Grading the NFL draft, team by team
4. Car cell phone bans advance
5. 8 LSU players sign free-agent deals

[Go to complete list](#)

PREV

Now on 2theadvocate.com

NEXT



**The Advocate - LSU 150th Anniversary**

Celebrate 150 years of LSU



**The Advocate's Summer Camp Guide**

See what summer camps are hot this year!



**Line Drives Blog**

Sportswriter Randy Rosetta provides news, notes and analysis on LSU baseball.



**Spring Home & Garden - 2010**

Find out what's new this season!



**Weddings 2010**

The Advocate's Weddings 2010 special section.



**Saints posters!**

Order yours today!

Browse site content published on April

**Archives**

Only staff-produced articles and videos are archived in the [Online search](#). WBRZ videos can be found on the [Video page](#).

As a courtesy to our users, we maintain an [Online Daily](#)

**Site Information**

Check out our [site blog](#) for the latest news on updates and changes to 2theadvocate.com.

Curious about how the site works or what content we can provide to you? Check our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section.

**Advertising**

Have a look at our [media kit](#) for online and offline advertising opportunities.

**Subscribe**

Subscribe to 2theadvocate.com with any of the feeds on our [Feeds page](#).

**Legal**

Copyright © 1992-2010, Louisiana Broadcasting LLC and Capital City Press LLC • 7290 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70810 • All Rights Reserved

No unauthorized use is permitted of content produced by The Advocate, WBRZ, 2theadvocate.com or any other publication or media owned by Louisiana

[Archive](#) of all site content from the past 7 days.

The Advocate also maintains a [Newspaper Archive](#).

Get a detailed listing of all of the site's sections with our [site map](#).

[Click here](#) to subscribe to The Advocate.

Broadcasting LLC and Capital City Press LLC.  
Unauthorized use includes framing and direct posting of content on websites other than [www.2theadvocate.com](http://www.2theadvocate.com).

[Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policies](#) | [Supported browsers](#)

---

 Have a question, comment, news tip or story idea? [Click here to give us some feedback](#).