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2018-0023-INVI-P – Theft of Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Property: Substantiated

The AOC, Office of Inspector General (OIG), received an email from an AOC staff member, who reported the theft of a Stihl backpack blower, property of the AOC, valued at \$425.19.

The AOC OIG coordinated with the Montgomery County Police Department and determined a Stihl backpack blower, registered to the U.S. Botanic Garden was pawned at a shop in Hyattsville, MD. The U.S. Botanic Garden also reported the incident to the U.S. Capitol Police (USCP) for investigation.

The USCP conducted an investigation which determined a Stihl backpack blower belonging to the AOC was stolen from an unsecured (open) storage area inside of the U.S. Botanic Garden equipment garage located at Independence Ave S.W., Washington, D.C. The investigation identified the individual, unaffiliated with the AOC, who pawned the Stihl backpack blower but attempts by the USCP to locate the individual were unsuccessful. It could not be determined where the individual resided due to a listed out of state address. The USCP briefed the investigation to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia for prosecution which opined there was insufficient evidence to prosecute. The USCP recovered the Stihl backpack blower from the pawnshop and returned it to the AOC OIG. Based on the return of the AOC property, it was determined that furtherance of the investigation would be of little or no value.

Final Action: This investigation is closed.