

Summary: BIE Employee Sexually Harassed Students on the Haskell Indian Nations University Women's Basketball Team

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The OIG investigated allegations that a Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) employee sexually harassed student-athletes on the Haskell Indian Nations University (Haskell) Women's Basketball Team.

We found that the employee made crude jokes and comments of a sexual nature to students and engaged in unwelcome physical contact with at least one student; we also found that the employee's behavior deterred some student-athletes from going to the athletic training room to receive treatment. We concluded that the employee's behavior violated DOI Personnel Bulletin 18-01, "Prevention and Elimination of Harassing Conduct" (PB 18-01) and the Haskell "Sexual Violence and Abuse, Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment" Standard Operating Procedures (Haskell SOP Handbook). Moreover, the conduct in question implicates State of Kansas regulations applicable to athletic trainers. Additionally, we found that the employee's supervisor and other staff were aware of the harassing conduct but failed to report the behavior as required under PB 18-01 and the Haskell SOP Handbook.

This is a summary of an investigative report we issued to the BIE Director and the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts.