



Inspector General

2024-0023-INVI-P — TIME AND ATTENDANCE FRAUD

AOC EMPLOYEE: Suspected Violations of the AOC “Standards of Conduct” and “Time and Attendance” Policies. **Substantiated**

On July 10, 2024, the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) received a complaint from AOC management alleging an AOC employee left Capitol grounds during their scheduled shift and returned after the completion of their scheduled tour of duty to clock out. A subsequent review by the OIG of the employee’s time and attendance records confirmed the employee clocked out after their scheduled shift on more than one occasion.

The OIG conducted multiple interviews, all of which corroborated the initial claims. Video surveillance observed by the OIG showed that the employee returned to work on July 9, 2024, to U.S. Capitol Grounds at the conclusion of their shift to clock out. Additional camera footage obtained by the OIG captured the employee on August 27, 2024, riding their bicycle at approximately 9 p.m. near North Carolina Avenue, NW, which further corroborated the claim that the employee was away from work during their duty hours. During their interview with the OIG, the employee ultimately admitted to leaving their work area during their shift. The employee explained they often found themselves with little work to complete after 6 p.m., despite being assigned to work alongside another colleague. That colleague explained to the OIG that the employee frequently left their assigned tasks unfinished and often disappeared during their shift.

Based on the investigative findings, the OIG determined that the employee violated both the AOC Standards of Conduct and the Time and Attendance policies. Consequently, the OIG referred the case to the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Washington, DC (USAO-DC) for potential prosecution under 18 § USC 641 – Public money, property or records and 18 USC § 287 – False, fictitious, or fraudulent claims. Due to limited prosecutorial resources and the availability of administrative remedies, the USAO-DC declined to pursue criminal charges.

Final Management Action:

The OIG substantiated the administrative violations against the employee and the administrative violations were submitted to the AOC for action deemed appropriate, if any.

The case is closed, and management action is pending.