



Inspector General

2025-0005-INVI-P — Allegation of Malingering

Suspected Violations of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) “Standards of Conduct” and “Government Ethics” Policies. **Substantiated**

Suspected Violations of AOC policy for having submitted fraudulent medical documentation in support of light duty work. **Not Substantiated**

On October 9, 2024, senior leadership at the Supreme Court Buildings and Grounds notified the AOC Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of allegations that an employee had falsified or exaggerated a non-work-related injury to avoid having to complete their assigned duties.

Included with the notification were medical documents, which lacked specificity and duration of the restricted duty that stated, “restriction to sedentary work only” and “required use of a brace.” It was further alleged that the AOC employee actively participated in a non-work-related recreational sport despite their injury; the employee maintained and continued to work outside employment during their modified work schedule; and the employee used a personal laptop to watch movies while on restricted duty.

The investigation determined that the medical documentation supporting the employee’s injury was legitimate. The employee’s medical provider confirmed that they were restricted from prolonged standing until a follow-up appointment on December 10, 2024, after which they were cleared for full-duty work without restrictions. Regarding their participation in recreational sports, records confirm that the employee did not actively participate until December 15, 2024, having then been medically cleared.

The investigation did, however, reveal that the employee failed to submit a current *Outside Employment or Self-Employment Form* for their personal business, in violation of AOC policy. Additionally, records indicate that the employee did not report business income from their personal business to their respective state, a potential violation of tax law. The OIG will refer the matter to the appropriate Comptroller for further investigation as deemed appropriate.

Regarding the allegation of “using a personal laptop to watch movies while on duty,” during a period of documented limited or restricted duty, this is a personnel matter to be addressed by the employee’s supervisors and not the OIG.

Final Management Action:

The substantiated administrative violation was submitted to the Architect of the Capitol for action deemed appropriate. On July 25, 2025, AOC notified the OIG that on April 18, 2025, the AOC issued the employee a letter of reprimand. The case is closed.