

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 25-077

Findings of Misconduct by a Senior Department of Justice Official for Receiving Unauthorized Travel Reimbursements and Failure to Use a Government-Issued Travel Card for Official Travel

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation after receiving a complaint alleging that a Senior DOJ Official received unauthorized travel reimbursements for official travel because the Senior DOJ Official did not use the DOJ's Travel Management Center (TMC) resulting in the failure to use City Pair Program airfare, as required. The City Pair Program offers negotiated firm-fixed pricing on airline seats for official government travel, generally at a lower cost than publicly available airfares. The complaint further alleged that the Senior DOJ Official failed to use a government-issued credit card for official travel, as required.

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegations that the Senior DOJ Official received unauthorized travel reimbursements, because the Senior DOJ Official failed to use the Department's TMC City Pair Program for airline reservations, and failed to use a government-issued travel credit card to reserve and pay for official travel, in violation of federal travel regulations and DOJ policy.

The Senior Official's failure to follow these rules resulted in an extra airline fare cost to the government of \$2,744.

Criminal prosecution was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to the Office of the Deputy Attorney General for appropriate action.

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Unless otherwise noted, the OIG applies the preponderance of the evidence standard in determining whether DOJ personnel have committed misconduct.