

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 26-004

Findings of Misconduct by a Department of Justice Trial Attorney for Conduct Prejudicial to the Government and Lack of Candor

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation after receiving information from Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) that a DOJ Trial Attorney had corresponded with an establishment known to offer commercial sex. During the course of the investigation, the OIG found indications that the Trial Attorney had been in contact with other establishments that offered commercial sex and lacked candor during a compelled interview with the OIG (conducted jointly with DSS).

The OIG investigation found that the Trial Attorney was in contact with three establishments known to offer commercial sex and the OIG concluded that the Trial Attorney engaged in conduct prejudicial to the government and created the appearance of violating the law by contacting these establishments, in violation of DOJ policy and federal ethics regulations. The OIG also found that the Trial Attorney lacked candor during the compelled interview.

Prosecution of the Trial Attorney was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to DOJ litigating component and DOJ's Professional Misconduct Review Unit for appropriate action.

* * *

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