

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 20-088

Findings of Misconduct by a then Federal Bureau of Investigation Unit Chief for Approving a Subordinate's Outside Employment Form Knowing that the Form Contained Misleading Information and Dereliction of Supervisory Responsibilities

The Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated this investigation upon the receipt of information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) alleging that a then Unit Chief approved a request for outside employment submitted by a subordinate that contained false information, despite the Unit Chief allegedly being fully aware of the circumstances of the request, and then forwarded the request for executive approval. The request was made during the lapse in appropriations, which began in December 2018 (commonly referred to as the "government shutdown"), at a time when the subordinate had been furloughed and was no longer receiving a regular paycheck. The FBI canceled the subordinate's request before the subordinate began outside employment.

The OIG investigation substantiated that the Unit Chief violated FBI policy by approving the subordinate's outside employment form despite knowing that the form contained misleading information, in that it failed to disclose a professional relationship between the subordinate and the potential outside employer that raised a financial conflict of interest concern. The OIG investigation also substantiated that the Unit Chief violated FBI policy by failing to exercise reasonable care in the execution of supervisory duties and responsibilities related to the subordinate's request for outside employment.

The Unit Chief retired while the OIG investigation was ongoing.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to the FBI for its information.



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