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OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

2021-0004-INVI-P – Suspected Violations of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) “Standards of Conduct” and “Information Technology (IT) Resources and De Minimis Use” Policies and the “Information Technology Division Rules of Behavior”: Substantiated

On December 15, 2020, the U.S. Capitol Police (USCP) notified the AOC, Office of Inspector General (OIG) that an employee utilized their AOC issued mobile device to make sexually inappropriate FaceTime video calls. The reporting party, a private citizen and the victim’s boyfriend, called both the AOC Human Capital Management Division and the USCP to report the incident.

The OIG and USCP coordinated information and conducted interviews of both the reporting party and the victim. After receiving multiple FaceTime video requests, the victim answered a request and reported that an unknown African American male was sitting on a toilet with his genitals exposed, masturbating. The victim chose not to pursue criminal charges at the time of the interview.

The OIG obtained mobile records belonging to the AOC owned device, which confirmed the device issued to the employee who called the victim a total of four times, sent four text messages and seven FaceTime requests in a time period of thirteen minutes. In addition, records revealed the employee spent a substantial amount of time on mobile voice calls while clocked in and working their shift (over eight full hours of voice calls while working their shifts during a three day period).

Documentary evidence obtained by the OIG confirmed the FaceTime requests were sent from the employee’s Apple ID (an aoc.gov email address) used to register the account. Further investigation by the OIG revealed that in addition to four current non-extraditable warrants for their arrest in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the employee had four previous criminal charges in the State of Maryland for Assault, Indecent Exposure and Trespass on Private Property, and three previous criminal charges in the Commonwealth of Virginia for Indecent Exposure and Simulated Masturbation since their employment began with the AOC in 2016. The employee has been on leave pursuant to the Federal Employee Paid Leave act since December 22, 2020, and is scheduled to return to work on March 16, 2021.

Final Management Action: The OIG substantiated that the AOC employee violated AOC policies when they failed to notify their supervisor of their past criminal record, current arrest warrants and utilized AOC owned IT equipment to transmit sexually explicit material. The administrative violations were submitted to the jurisdiction for action deemed appropriate, if any. The case is closed and management action is pending.