



# OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

## *2022-0001-INVI-P – Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Employee Displayed their Personal Firearm to another Employee on U.S. Capitol Grounds in 2016*

### **Suspected Violations of the AOC “Standards of Conduct” Policy and “Violence in the Workplace” Memorandum; and “D.C. Code § 22-4504 – Carrying concealed weapons,” “D.C. Code § 22-4504.02 – Lawful transportation of firearms” and “Title 40 U.S.C. § 5104 - Unlawful Activities”** **Substantiated.**

On September 4, 2021, the AOC Office of Inspector General (OIG) received a complaint from the U.S. Capitol Police (USCP), alleging an employee of the Office of the Chief Engineer (OCE) brandished a firearm while on U.S. Capitol Grounds. The USCP had been notified that two OCE employees were involved in a verbal argument at which time one of the employees (SUBJECT) displayed a firearm that had been kept in their vehicle.

The OIG provided contact information for the AOC employee’s and the USCP conducted telephonic interviews of both employees. The interviews revealed that a verbal argument took place on August 20, 2021; however, the SUBJECT did not display a firearm at the time of the argument. Both employees stated that the SUBJECT displayed the firearm sometime in 2016. Due to the time that passed since the incident, the USCP closed their investigation without presenting charges to the United States Attorney’s Office and provided the information to the OIG for action deemed appropriate.

The OIG determined through testimonial evidence that since 2016, the employees had developed a strained relationship. After having let multiple negative confrontational situations build up over time, the employee approached the SUBJECT to talk on August 20, 2021, which led to a verbal argument. Their different job positions within the section had left the employee feeling they had been treated unfairly and consistently targeted by first line supervisors. During the verbal argument, the employee brought up the firearm incident from 2016, and made a remark that the SUBJECT likely still had the firearm in their vehicle. The argument ended and the two parted ways. No firearms were involved in the argument that took place on August 20, 2021. The SUBJECT then later informed their supervisor of the 2016 incident.

In an interview with the OIG, the SUBJECT admitted they brought a MAC-10,<sup>1</sup> with a 20 round magazine, to U.S. Capitol Grounds in 2016 because of a planned demonstration called “Day of Rage.”<sup>2</sup> The SUBJECT showed the firearm to the employee in their vehicle that was parked outside the Ford House Office Building because he believed they were both gun enthusiasts. The SUBJECT stated the firearm was kept under the seat of the vehicle, they did not attempt to bring it in the Congressional Office Buildings and it was a one-time occurrence. In the interview, the SUBJECT also stated they were

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<sup>1</sup> The Military Armament Corporation Model 10, officially abbreviated as "M10" or "M-10",<sup>[4]</sup> and more commonly known as the MAC-10, is a compact, blowback operated machine pistol/submachine gun that was developed by Gordon B. Ingram in 1964. Retrieved January 7, 2022 from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAC-10>

<sup>2</sup> “Day of Rage” was an attempt by hacktivist group Anonymous to participate in nationwide protests on July 15, 2016.



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# Investigative Summary

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aware it was illegal to possess a firearm on U.S. Capitol Grounds or in Washington, D.C. without a license. The SUBJECT resides in Virginia, did not have a Concealed Carry Weapon permit for Virginia or Washington, D.C. at the time of the incident, and had not obtained one by the date of this report.

By their own admission, the SUBJECT knowingly and willfully violated both AOC policy and D.C. law in 2016.

**Final Management Action:** The OIG substantiated that the AOC employee violated multiple AOC policies when they transported and brandished a firearm on U.S. Capitol Grounds. The administrative violations were submitted to the jurisdiction for action deemed appropriate, if any. The OIG is referring all criminal violations to the Department of Justice for prosecutorial consideration. The case is closed and management action is pending.