



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

2024-0001-INVI-P – Misuse of Government issued iPhone

Suspected Violations of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) “Standards of Conduct,” “Information Technology Resources and De Minimis Use” and “Workplace Anti-Harassment” Policies; and the Information Technology Division’s (ITD) Rules of Behavior. **Substantiated.**

The AOC Office of Inspector General (OIG), received an anonymous allegation that claimed an AOC employee had misused their AOC issued iPhone by sending sexually explicit images in violation of ITD policy.

The OIG initiated an investigation into violations of multiple AOC policies. Evidence obtained from a forensic examination confirmed the existence of multiple sexually explicit photos stored on the AOC iPhone issued to the employee. Testimonial evidence obtained from the employee confirmed they had sent images containing their exposed genitals to another AOC employee.

The employee also told the OIG that they had sent nude images of themselves to people they knew personally and had met online using applications downloaded¹ and installed on their AOC issued iPhone. The employee admitted to downloading multiple applications, including applications associated with gambling, on the AOC issued iPhone. Additionally, the employee stated to the OIG that they had signed the ITD Rules of Behavior but had not read “the manual.”

The OIG’s investigation identified a victim who had been in receipt of a text message from the subject that contained the statement, “This is waiting for you,” followed by two images of their exposed genitals. The victim was not comfortable notifying AOC management or the Diversity, Inclusion and Dispute Resolution office of the incident. The victim reiterated to the OIG that they did not want, ask for or approve of the images sent by the employee.

Final Management Action: The OIG substantiated that the employee violated multiple AOC policies and the administrative violations were submitted to the Acting Architect of the Capitol for action deemed appropriate, if any. The case is closed, and management action is pending.

¹ The continued ability for all AOC employees to download and install applications on AOC issued equipment has been identified by the OIG as an ongoing challenge and will be addressed in a future OIG work product.