



OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

U.S. Department of Justice

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INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Findings of Misconduct by an FBI Senior Official for Failing to Report an Intimate Relationship with a Subordinate and for Failing to Avoid Creating the Appearance of Preferential Treatment

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation of a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) senior official based on information that the senior official committed misconduct by failing to report a romantic or intimate relationship with a subordinate and participating in decisions concerning the subordinate's temporary promotion.

The senior official and the subordinate admitted to the OIG to having engaged in a romantic or intimate relationship while the senior official was supervising the subordinate. The senior official denied that the relationship impacted the subordinate's temporary promotion or performance appraisal.

The OIG found that the senior official committed misconduct by failing to report the relationship to appropriate personnel as required by FBI policy. In addition, the OIG found that the senior official committed misconduct by participating in decisions regarding the subordinate's temporary promotion, and violated FBI ethics policy by failing to meet the heightened responsibility placed on supervisors to avoid creating the appearance of preferential treatment or other improper conduct. However, the OIG concluded that supervisory actions by the senior official, including the subordinate's temporary promotion, were not based on favoritism.

The senior official was reassigned to another division before the OIG investigation began.

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

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

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