



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE | OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

## INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 22-069

### Findings of Misconduct by a Senior FBI Official for Failure to Recuse in a Matter of Financial Interest

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation upon receipt of information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Inspection Division, alleging that a senior FBI official became involved in the FBI vetting and hiring process of the official's former spouse despite having a financial conflict of interest due to child support payments by the former spouse.

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegation that the Senior FBI Official had a financial interest in the former spouse's FBI employment based on the terms of a consent order regarding custody and child support, and that the Senior Official violated federal ethics regulations and related FBI policy, when the Senior Official participated in a matter related to the former spouse's FBI vetting and hiring process and did not seek authorization to participate in this matter despite the financial interest. The OIG investigation found that the Senior Official communicated directly with the Senior Official's subordinates, and leadership from the FBI group seeking to hire the former spouse, regarding one aspect of the former spouse's vetting and hiring process.

Criminal prosecution of the Senior FBI Official was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided a 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.