



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE | OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

## INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 23-017

### Findings of Misconduct by a State's Attorney for Misuse of Federal Grant Funds and False Statements

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation after receiving information from a state agency alleging that a victim advocate in a state's attorney's office performed work on matters for the State's Attorney's private law firm that were unrelated to the victim advocate position while being paid with federal grant funds. The OIG conducted this investigation jointly with a state law enforcement agency.

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegation and found that the State's Attorney directed a victim advocate, whom the State's Attorney supervised, to charge the full hours the victim advocate worked to a grant comprised, in part, of federal grant funds, when the State's Attorney knew that the victim advocate spent a portion of that time performing work for the State's Attorney's private law firm. The OIG concluded that the State's Attorney's actions violated federal law when the victim advocate, at the State's Attorney's direction, submitted, or caused to be submitted, false timesheets for work as a victim advocate for payment from a grant comprised, in part, of federal grant funds and received payments from the grant based on those false timesheets. The OIG also concluded that, during the State's Attorney's interview with the OIG, the State's Attorney made multiple false statements, in violation of federal law.

Criminal prosecution of the State's Attorney was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to the Office of Justice Programs for its review and action it deems appropriate and to the Department's Office of Professional Responsibility for its review and action it deems appropriate.



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