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2018-0015-INVI-P – Suspected Federal Employee Compensation Act (FECA) Fraud by Former Architect of the Capitol Employee: Not Substantiated

The Architect of the Capitol (AOC), Human Capital Management Division (HCMD) initiated a proactive effort to identify former AOC employees who may be fraudulently receiving Federal Workers' Compensation Act (FECA) program benefits. During the effort, the AOC's HCMD evaluated all claimants on prolonged disability status, and forwarded those of interest to the AOC Office of Inspector General (OIG).

The AOC OIG worked closely with workers' compensation specialists within the HCMD to evaluate each claim and the established case management process for FECA claimants. Collaboration between the AOC OIG and the HCMD Workers' Compensation Section determined that the loss of AOC funds was attributed to process errors within Department of Labor and the AOC HCMD which caused waste and not due to claimant fraud. The OIG will continue to work with the HCMD Workers' Compensation Section to detect and deter FECA fraud and abuse in an effort to minimize financial loss to the AOC.

Final Management Action: A former AOC employee has received benefits since June 26, 2001. In response to the AOC's newly revived and ongoing file review process from November 2017 to present, the claimant became compliant with current requirements to show medical necessity and participation in the Office of Workers' Compensation Program vocational rehabilitation programs. The claimant receives a monthly compensation benefit of approximately \$2,099.60. Upon successful completion of vocational rehabilitation or return to work in a full time status, the claimant's periodic compensation will be reduced, off-set or terminated with a potential savings of approximately \$25,195.20 annually. This investigation did not substantiate FECA fraud.