

UPDATED POST FOR OVERSIGHT.GOV

2018-0009-INVI-P – Theft of Copper: Not Substantiated and Violations of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Outside Employment Policy: Substantiated

The AOC, Office of Inspector General (OIG) received information about the suspected theft of copper from an employee who wished to keep their identity confidential. The confidential source alleged six electricians, stole approximately \$22,000 worth of copper pipe and wiring while installing a large Uninterrupted Power Supply for the Library of Congress in December 2017.

The OIG conducted an investigation and interviewed the electricians and none admitted to the theft and/or resale of copper pipe, wiring, or other government property. Due to outdated information, surveillance limitations, and lack of physical evidence, the theft could not be substantiated. However, based on testimony, one AOC employee violated AOC policy pertaining to outside employment or self-employment. During an interview, the AOC employee admitted to having outside employment providing electric repair services as a business for which he owned. The AOC employee had not previously notified or requested authorization from AOC management to participate in outside employment as required by the AOC's policy.

Final Management Action: On September 13, 2019, after an interview regarding this investigation, the AOC employee informed AOC management of their outside employment. On March 6, 2020, management provided an update, citing that the AOC employee submitted a "Notice of Outside Employment," which management approved on September 13, 2019. In addition, employees are also reminded of the outside employment reporting requirement through annual ethics training and via email with the annual announcement for mandatory training. This investigation has been closed.