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OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

2021-0004-INVI-P (1st Supplemental) – Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Employee Continued to Violate Standards of Conduct, Information Technology Division (ITD) Property and Rules of Behavior and Lied about Losing Four iPhones After Returning from 15-day Suspension "

2021-0004-INVI-P (1st Supplemental) – Suspected Violations of the AOC “Standards of Conduct,” “Accountability IT Property” and “Authority and Responsibilities of the Office of Inspector General and Cooperation of AOC Employees” Policies; the “Personal Property Manual,” the “ITD Rules of Behavior” and “Title 18, United States Code §1001 – Statements or Entries Generally”: **Substantiated**

On March 1, 2021, the AOC Office of Inspector General (OIG), published a report (AOC OIG 2021-0004-INVI-P) citing Mr. Everett Witcher, (former WG-04), with violations of AOC Order 752-2, Standards of Conduct, April 25, 2014; AOC Order 8-5, AOC IT Resources and De Minimis Use, February 20, 2018, and the AOC ITD Rules of Behavior. Witcher engaged in conduct that brought discredit upon the agency, the Congress and the federal government when he utilized his AOC issued e-mail and mobile device to transmit sexually explicit material. In addition, he engaged in criminal activity on multiple occasions, failed to disclose multiple arrests to his supervisor and did not appear for scheduled court dates. Witcher received a 15-workday suspension for his conduct, with the understanding that he would be subject to termination for any future misconduct until July 19, 2022.

In June of 2021, the ITD requested assistance from our office because Witcher (who had a history of requesting replacement iPhones) submitted a request for a replacement iPhone. The iPhone he claimed to have lost was the same iPhone he told his supervisor he lost approximately four months earlier during our initial investigation.

Documentary evidence obtained for this supplemental investigation confirmed that the AOC iPhone issued to Witcher was utilized for a total of 1,231 incoming and outgoing voice calls from January 21, 2021 through May 31, 2021, the period of time after he told his supervisor the iPhone was missing. Additionally, call records confirmed there were multiple calls to his significant other and sibling. In addition to the voice calls, the AOC iPhone was utilized to send and receive 8,938 text, picture and video messages from the time he reported it missing until May 31, 2021.

In an interview with the OIG, Witcher consistently denied knowing the location of the AOC iPhone or using it to call his significant other or sibling after reporting it missing. Witcher admitted to damaging multiple AOC issued iPhones in the past as well as providing family and friends the passwords to his AOC issued iPhones.

This supplemental investigation revealed that he has been issued, at a minimum,



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Investigative Summary

2021-0004-INVI-P (1st supplemental) "AOC Employee Continually Abused Information Technology (IT) Equipment"

four AOC iPhones since 2019, totaling approximately \$2,800.00, which we identified as funds put to better use.

Additionally, since the distribution of AOC OIG 2021-0004-INVI-P, Witcher was arrested in Berkley, West Virginia, for Domestic Battery and Obstruction of a Law Enforcement Officer.

Final Management Action: The Department of Justice declined to prosecute due to the availability of civil and administrative remedies in this case. The AOC employee was terminated for his conduct. The investigation is closed.