



# OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

## *2022-0001-INVI-P – Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Employee Displayed their Personal Firearm to another Employee on U.S. Capitol Grounds in 2016*

**Suspected Violations of the AOC “Standards of Conduct” Policy and “Violence in the Workplace” Memorandum; and “D.C. Code § 22-4504 – Carrying concealed weapons,” “D.C. Code § 22-4504.02 – Lawful transportation of firearms” and “Title 40 U.S.C. § 5104 - Unlawful Activities”**  
**Substantiated.**

On September 4, 2021, the AOC Office of Inspector General (OIG) received a complaint from the U.S. Capitol Police (USCP), alleging an AOC employee, Mr. Martin Jones, WL-10, Wood Crafter Leader, Office of the Chief Engineer (OCE), brandished a firearm while on U.S. Capitol Grounds. The USCP had been notified that two OCE employees were involved in a verbal argument at which time one of the employees (Jones) displayed a firearm that had been kept in his vehicle.

The OIG provided contact information for the AOC employee’s and the USCP conducted telephonic interviews of both employees. The interviews revealed that a verbal argument took place on August 20, 2021; however, Jones did not display a firearm at the time of the argument. Both employees stated that Jones displayed the firearm sometime in 2016. Due to the time that passed since the incident, the USCP closed their investigation without presenting charges to the United States Attorney’s Office and provided the information to the OIG for action deemed appropriate.

The OIG determined through testimonial evidence that since 2016, the employees had developed a strained relationship. After having let multiple negative confrontational situations build up over time, the second employee approached Jones to talk on August 20, 2021, which led to a verbal argument. Their different job positions within the section had left the second employee feeling they had been treated unfairly and consistently targeted by first line supervisors. During the verbal argument, the employee brought up the firearm incident from 2016, and made a remark that Jones likely still had the firearm in his vehicle. The argument ended and the two parted ways. No firearms were involved in the argument that took place on August 20, 2021. Jones then later informed his supervisor of the 2016 incident.

In an interview with the OIG, Jones admitted he brought a MAC-10,<sup>1</sup> with a 20-round magazine, to U.S. Capitol Grounds in 2016 because of a planned demonstration called “Day of Rage.”<sup>2</sup> Jones showed the firearm to his co-worker in his vehicle that was parked outside the Ford House Office Building because he believed they were both gun enthusiasts. Jones stated the firearm was kept under the seat of the vehicle, he did not attempt to bring it in the Congressional Office Buildings, and it was a one-time occurrence. In the interview, Jones also stated he was aware it was illegal to possess a firearm on U.S. Capitol Grounds or in Washington, D.C. without a license. Jones resides in Virginia, did not have a Concealed Carry Weapon permit for Virginia or Washington, D.C. at the time of the incident and had not obtained one by the date of the Report of Investigation.

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<sup>1</sup> The Military Armament Corporation Model 10, officially abbreviated as "M10" or "M-10",<sup>[4]</sup> and more commonly known as the MAC-10, is a compact, blowback operated machine pistol/submachine gun that was developed by Gordon B. Ingram in 1964. Retrieved January 7, 2022 from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAC-10>

<sup>2</sup> “Day of Rage” was an attempt by hacktivist group Anonymous to participate in nationwide protests on July 15, 2016.



# Investigative Summary

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By his own admission, Jones knowingly and willfully violated both AOC policy and D.C. law in 2016.

**Final Management Action:** The Department of Justice declined to prosecute Jones due to the length of time that had passed and the availability of administrative remedies in this case. Jones was terminated on March 7, 2022, for his conduct. The investigation is closed.