



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

2023-0014-INVI-P – Unqualified Candidates hired by the Human Capital Management Division (HCMD)

Suspected Violations of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) “Standards of Conduct,” “Government Ethics” and “Career Staffing Plan” Policies. **Not Substantiated.**

The AOC Office of Inspector General (OIG) received an allegation that an AOC supervisor hired unqualified candidates with whom they were friends for multiple vacancies within the HCMD and that the candidates lacked proper government experience. The complainant further alleged that a subordinate was awarded a \$1,500.00 bonus as “hush money” for turning a blind eye to the supervisors’ hiring practices.

The OIG initiated an investigation and obtained all vacancy data pertaining to each specific instance referenced by the complainant. The OIG found that each candidate selected had successfully passed all required vacancy process qualifications, had a minimum of 10 years’ experience working in the field of Human Resources, held multiple degrees and professional Human Resource certifications and maintained employment at different city, county or the District of Columbia government agencies prior to working at the AOC.

The OIG’s investigation into the “hush money” awarded to the subordinate revealed that the subordinate accepted a temporary promotion to a supervisory position. Upon conclusion of the temporary assignment, the employee was appropriately reclassified to their original position and awarded a monetary bonus of \$500.00, not \$1,500.00, as noted in the allegation.

The OIG found no evidence to corroborate any of the allegations made by the complainant.

Final Management Action: The case is closed.