



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE | OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 24-017

Findings of Misconduct by a then Drug Enforcement Administration Assistant Special Agent in Charge for Having an Inappropriate, Intimate Relationship with a Subordinate, Obstruction, Lack of Candor, and Related Misconduct

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation after receiving information from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) alleging that an Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) was involved in an inappropriate, intimate relationship with a subordinate.

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegation that the DEA ASAC was involved in an inappropriate, intimate relationship with a subordinate, in violation of DEA policy. The OIG investigation also found that the DEA ASAC failed to report the relationship with the subordinate as required by DEA policy, participated in personnel actions involving the subordinate, attempted to obstruct a DEA investigation into the relationship by instructing the subordinate to lie to DEA investigators, lacked candor when questioned by DEA investigators, and failed to cooperate with the OIG investigation by avoiding a compelled OIG interview, all in violation of DEA policy.

The DEA ASAC declined to participate in a compelled OIG interview when initially contacted to be interviewed, requested to postpone the OIG compelled interview when it was scheduled for another date, was ordered by DEA to appear for the OIG compelled interview when the DEA ASAC's request to postpone it was denied, and then abruptly retired the day before the scheduled interview and did not appear for the interview the following day. The OIG has the authority to compel testimony from current Department employees upon informing them that their statements will not be used to incriminate them in a criminal proceeding. The OIG does not have the authority to compel or subpoena testimony from former Department employees, including those who retire or resign during the course of an OIG investigation.

Criminal prosecution of the DEA ASAC was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to the DEA for appropriate action.



Unless otherwise noted, the OIG applies the preponderance of the evidence standard in determining whether DOJ personnel have committed misconduct.