



# Inspector General

## 2024-0011-INVI-P — ATTEMPTED IDENTITY THEFT

**Suspected Violations of 18 United States Code § 1028 - Fraud and related activity in connection with identification documents, authentication features, and information, 18 U.S.C. § 1343 - Fraud by wire, radio, or television and 18 U.S.C. § 1344 - Bank fraud. Unresolved and Referred to other Law Enforcement Agencies**

On February 13, 2024, the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation after being notified that an unknown person contacted the AOC's Human Capital Management Division (HCMD) and attempted to update an employee's direct deposit information.

The unknown individual sent several e-mails to the HCMD's Payroll Processing Branch that addressed AOC employees by name and provided a Direct Deposit Sign-up Form as well as a scanned copy of a blank check in the AOC employee's name. When the HCMD followed up with the employee to confirm the request, it was discovered that they had not initiated the request, and that the social security number, address and telephone number on the Direct Deposit Sign-up Form were incorrect.

The OIG's investigation identified that the email account owner associated with the request had been associated with at least twelve additional email accounts that originated from a foreign country. Additional information obtained by the OIG identified an associated target who resides within the United States, has been arrested for similar bank fraud schemes and has also been identified as having attempted to wire money to the same foreign country as the email account owner.

The OIG provided all information obtained to multiple law enforcement agencies, including a Financial Crimes Task Force in the area of the United States where the target resides. The Financial Crimes Task Force agreed to investigate the matter further and the OIG has closed our investigation pending additional reported incidents or requests for assistance.

**Final Management Action:** The OIG's investigation into the matter is closed and potential violations of local, state and federal code remain unresolved pending the results of an additional investigation conducted by the Financial Crimes Task Force. In the event the individual identified by the OIG is prosecuted, a supplemental Report of Investigation will be issued to provide updated information.