DOJ OIG Releases Report on Grants Awarded to Cleveland, Ohio, for the 2016 Republican National Convention

Department of Justice (DOJ) Inspector General Michael E. Horowitz announced today the release of a report examining the $49,900,000 Presidential Candidate Nominating Convention grant awarded to Cleveland, Ohio. The grant was awarded in April 2016 by the DOJ Office of Justice Programs’ (OJP) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for the purpose of providing security to delegates, visitors, and residents of the city during the 2016 Republican National Convention (RNC).

The DOJ Office of the Inspector General (OIG) found that Cleveland generally managed the grant appropriately with respect to financial management, expenditures, drawdowns, and federal financial reports. The report makes one recommendation to OJP to assist Cleveland in ensuring that vehicles purchased with grant funds are recorded in the city’s inventory in accordance with DOJ requirements, and as noted in the report, we have received evidence that Cleveland has taken appropriate corrective action, and the recommendation is closed.

The DOJ OIG also is performing a separate audit of the corresponding BJA grant awarded to the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for security during the 2016 Democratic National Convention. Because Philadelphia’s requests for funds from that grant have proceeded on a different time table, that report will be issued at a later date.

Report: Today’s report is available on the OIG’s website at the following link: https://oig.justice.gov/reports/2018/g5018002.pdf.

Video: To accompany today’s report, the OIG has released a 2-minute video of the Inspector General discussing the report’s findings. The video and a downloadable transcript are available at the following link: https://oig.justice.gov/multimedia/.

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