

(202) 514-3435 | oig.justice.gov

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Findings Concerning a DOJ Attorney Who Sent Harassing E-mails to Government Employees and Lacked Candor with the OIG

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation upon receipt of information that a DOJ employee received a harassing message from a non-attributable email address which originated from the DOJ. The OIG investigation identified a DOJ attorney as the author of the message. We also determined that the attorney sent similarly harassing messages to two other government employees using the same non-attributable email address. The attorney had worked with all three recipients in a prior job years earlier.

The OIG concluded that the attorney transmitted harassing messages in violation of DOJ policy and federal law. The OIG also found that the attorney displayed a lack of candor during an OIG interview by initially denying any knowledge of the messages or sending them, and maintaining they could have resulted from hacking, before admitting to having sent the messages when confronted with computer forensic proof. Prosecution was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and has provided a report to the division at which the attorney is employed, and to the DOJ Office of Professional Responsibility for their review and appropriate action.

Posted to oig.justice.gov on December 8, 2015