



**OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
U.S. Department of Justice

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**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

**Findings Concerning Misuse of a Government Travel Card by a U.S. Attorney**

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation of a then-sitting United States Attorney (USA) based on information received by the OIG that the USA improperly used and attempted to use an official Government travel charge card to purchase goods and services while not on official travel.

The OIG investigation identified 37 questionable travel card charges and one questionable attempted charge. Of the questionable transactions, it was determined that 26 purchases totaling \$1,800.88 were made during the course of official business but were not properly authorized; five purchases totaling \$1,052.26 were properly authorized, but the USA only sought reimbursement for three of these authorized charges; six purchases totaling \$1,679 were personal and not for official business; and there was one unsuccessful attempt at a personal purchase in the amount of \$234.56. There was no evidence that the USA sought or received reimbursement for the personal charges.

The OIG found that the USA's use of the travel charge card violated Government Accountability Office (GAO) travel regulations, which prohibit an employee from using the travel charge card for personal reasons, and also require a traveler to obtain authorization for official travel and to seek reimbursement for all official travel expenses to avoid improper augmentation of congressional appropriations. Additionally, while we did not find evidence to conclude that the USA intentionally provided false information to the OIG, we found that the USA was not forthcoming regarding several of the questioned charges, and that he provided inconsistent and inaccurate explanations to the OIG that unduly lengthened and complicated the investigation.

The USA has resigned and retired from federal service. The OIG has completed its investigation and provided a report to the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and the Office of the Deputy Attorney General.

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*Typographical error corrected April 28, 2016*