INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Findings of Misconduct by an FBI Unit Chief, Including Acceptance of Gifts from Vendors, Giving Preferential Treatment, and Misuse of Position

The Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation based on information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) alleging that a current FBI Unit Chief engaged in misconduct by accepting from a vendor who had contracts with the FBI tickets to at least two sporting events. It was further alleged that the FBI Unit Chief, without appropriate justification, sponsored the vendor for a badge which gave the vendor unescorted access to the FBI J. Edgar Hoover Building (JEH). The OIG substantiated these allegations, concluding that the FBI Unit Chief attended at least two sporting events with a vendor without paying for the tickets, and that the FBI Unit Chief inappropriately sponsored a vendor for unescorted access to the FBI JEH building.

During the course of the OIG investigation, the OIG discovered the following additional instances of misconduct: the FBI Unit Chief attended three vendor-sponsored presentations at sporting venues and stayed to watch the sporting events without paying for a ticket; the FBI Unit Chief engaged in social activities such as golfing, going to a shooting range, and watching mixed martial arts fights with vendors; and the FBI Unit Chief accepted free lunches from vendors. The OIG investigation found that the FBI Unit Chief had no pre-existing personal association with these vendors and, therefore, the FBI Unit Chief’s conduct violated applicable standards of ethical conduct prohibiting acceptance of gifts, giving preferential treatment, and misuse of position.

The OIG further concluded that the FBI Unit Chief failed to disclose receipt of gifts on annual Confidential Financial Disclosure forms as required, and lacked candor in response to OIG questioning. Prosecution was declined.

The OIG provided a report of investigation to the FBI for appropriate action.

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