

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

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INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Findings of Misconduct by a Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal for Driving a Government Vehicle Under the Influence of Alcohol While On Duty

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated this investigation upon receipt of information from the United States Marshals Service (USMS) reporting that a Chief Deputy United States Marshal (CDUSM) was arrested and charged by state law enforcement authorities with driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol and for having an open container of alcohol in his official government vehicle. The CDUSM was on-duty at the time of his arrest.

Based on witness interviews, and information and records obtained from the state law enforcement authorities, the OIG substantiated that the CDUSM was under the influence of alcohol when he was arrested and charged with a DUI and possessing an open container of alcohol in his official government vehicle. The OIG also determined that the CDUSM's conduct violated numerous USMS policy directives pertaining to operating a government vehicle while consuming alcohol, possessing alcohol while on duty, and being under the influence of alcohol while on duty. In addition, the investigation concluded that the CDUSM's negligent operation of his government vehicle resulted in damage to the vehicle, and towing and storage fees totaling over \$5,000. Finally, the CDUSM violated Department regulations and USMS policy by refusing to be interviewed by the OIG after being compelled to do so, and after being told that none of the statements he made to the OIG would be shared with or used by South Carolina authorities in connect with the state criminal prosecution.

A criminal prosecution relating to this incident remains pending. The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to the USMS for appropriate action.

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