INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Findings of Misconduct by an AUSA for Failing to Declare Items and Pay Customs Duties Upon Reentry Into the U.S. From International Travel

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation upon receipt of information from the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys (EOUSA) alleging that an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) engaged in off-duty misconduct by failing to declare items to the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) upon returning from international travel.

The OIG substantiated the allegations. The investigation determined that the AUSA failed to declare items and avoided paying customs duties to the CBP upon re-entry into the U.S. from international travel in violation of federal law. Upon being contacted by the CBP, the AUSA was cooperative and forthcoming about the undeclared items. Accordingly, the CBP collected a mitigated penalty from the AUSA. During the OIG investigation, the OIG identified two additional instances where the AUSA had failed to declare items upon reentry to the United States as required by federal law. Prosecution was declined.

The AUSA retired from the United States Attorney’s Office while the investigation was still pending. The OIG has completed its investigation and provided a report to EOUSA for review and appropriate action.

*Posted to oig.justice.gov on July 28, 2016*