

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Inspector General

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT						CASE N	UMBER		
Executiv	e Director (former)								
OFFICE C	ONDUCTINGINVESTIGATION			DOJ C	OMPONENT				
Washington Field Office									
DISTRIBU	TION	STAT	US						
\boxtimes	Field Office WFO		OPEN		OPEN PENDING I	PROSEC	UTION	\boxtimes	CLOSED
	AIGINV	PREV	IOUS REPORT	SUBM	ITTED:		YES		NO
\boxtimes	Component			Date of	f Previous Report:				
	USA								
	Other								
	SYNOPSIS								

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated this investigation upon the receipt of information from

who reported information her office received from	,
alleging that in	and
then Executive Officer, made inappropriate comments to her o	n three
occasions that she felt constituted sexual harassment. On the first occasion, on	
allegedly came to her office, closed the door, and made a comment to her regarding how her body sh	ape
looked in the outfit she was wearing. On the second occasion, on was a	alone
with in his office when he allegedly made a comment regarding how the dress she was wearing	ng
highlighted her shape, commenting on her weight loss. On the third occasion, on	
was in office with , and	1
, when alleged	y said
to her, "I really like women with long hairI'm a long hair type of guy."	
In addition, alleged that misused personnel resources by asking his subordin	ates to

m addition,	anegeu mat	misuscu	is subordinates to
perform personal	tasks for him.	alleged that	asked an employee to wash his personal car
on occasion;			
	rout	inely called ahead d	uring his commute to have a subordinate fill his
coffee order and h	ave it waiting for him	: and requested that	subordinates drive him on personal errands.

DATE	July 6, 2020			
PREPARED	BY SPECIAL AGENT	SIGNATURE		
DATE	July 6, 2020		(Digitally signed by RUSSELL
Russell W. Cunningham		SIGNATURE	RA	CUNNINGHAM
APPROVED BY SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			8 9	Date: 2020.07.06 15:44:34 -04'00'

OIG Form III-210/1 (Superseding OIG Form III-207/4) (04/23/2007)

Portions of the Report of Investigation may not be exempt under the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552) and the Privacy Act (5 USC 552a).



Subsequent to the onset of the investigation, provided the OIG with additional information indicating that the may have also sexually harassed by kissing her on the lips When interviewed by the OIG, confirmed this allegation and additionally alleged that made inappropriate comments to her based on her gender.
The OIG concluded that wiolated the Department's zero tolerance policy on sexual harassment by making inappropriate comments to the formula on three occasions, kissing the sexual harassment by permitting that the sexual harassment by permitting that the sexual harassment by permitting the sexual harassment by permitt
retired from his position effective .
The OIG has completed its investigation and is providing this report to the for its

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Unless otherwise noted, the OIG applies the preponderance of the evidence standard in determining whether DOJ personnel have committed misconduct. The Merit Systems Protection Board applies this same standard when reviewing a federal agency's decision to take adverse action against an employee based on such misconduct. See 5 U.S.C. § 7701(c)(1)(B); 5 C.F.R. § 1201.56(b)(1)(ii).



DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Predication

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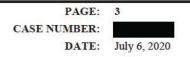
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Investigative Process

The OIG's investigative efforts consisted of the following:

Interviews of the following personnel:

U.S. Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General





Executive Officer.

Interviews of the following personnel:



Review of the following:

Official Outlook email and attachments to and from
Official Outlook email and attachments to and from
Executive Officer,

Relevant Authority

Attorney General Policy Memorandum #2015-04 – Prevention of Harassment in the Workplace, dated October 9, 2015, states in part:

POLICY: The Department of Justice will maintain a zero tolerance work environment that is free from harassment (including sexual harassment) based on sex, race, color, religion, national origin, gender identity, age, disability (physical or mental), genetic information, status as a parent, sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation, or any other impermissible factor...

Harassing conduct is defined as any unwelcome verbal or physical conduct that is based on any of the above-referenced characteristics when this conduct explicitly or implicitly affects an individual's employment; unreasonably interferes with an individual's work performance; or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment...

To enforce this zero tolerance policy, the Department will treat harassing conduct as misconduct, even if it does not rise to the level of harassment actionable under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. The Department will not wait for a pattern of offensive conduct to emerge before addressing claims of harassment. Rather, the Department will act before the harassing conduct is so pervasive and offensive as to constitute a hostile environment. Even where a single utterance of an ethnic, sexual, racial, or other offensive epithet may not be severe enough to constitute unlawful harassment in violation of Title VII, it is the Department's view that such conduct must be prevented whenever possible through awareness, robust policies and effective and appropriate follow-up, investigation, and enforcement of the zero tolerance policy.

5 C.F.R. § 2635.705 – Use of official time – (b) – Use of a subordinate's time, states:

An employee shall not encourage, direct, coerce, or request a subordinate to use official time to perform activities other than those required in the performance of official duties or authorized in accordance with law or regulation.



5 C.F.R. § 2635.302(b) - Gifts from employees receiving less pay, states:

Except as provided in this subpart, and employee may not, directly or indirectly, accept a gift from an employee receiving less pay than himself unless:

- (1) The two employees are not in a subordinate-official superior relationship; and
- (2) There is a personal relationship between the two employees that would justify the gift.

5 C.F.R. § 2635.702 Use of public office for private gain.

An employee shall not use his public office for his own private gain, for the endorsement of any product, service or enterprise, or for the private gain of friends, relatives, or persons with whom the employee is affiliated in a nongovernmental capacity, including nonprofit organizations of which the employee is an officer or member, and persons with whom the employee has or seeks employment or business relations. The specific prohibitions set forth in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section apply this general standard, but are not intended to be exclusive or to limit the application of this section.

(a) *Inducement or coercion of benefits.* An employee shall not use or permit the use of his Government position or title or any authority associated with his public office in a manner that is intended to coerce or induce another person, including a subordinate, to provide any benefit, financial or otherwise, to himself or to friends, relatives, or persons with whom the employee is affiliated in a nongovernmental capacity.

Sexual Harassment of

reported to the OIG
information her office received from alleging that in, Executive Officer,, made inappropriate comments to her on three occasions that she felt constituted sexual harassment. provided the OIG with a copy of an email that sent to herself on, with the subject, "Memory Joggers – which came to attention after forwarded it to another employee on stated that she discussed the email with, who told her that it memorialized her recollection of three interactions with The email stated the following:
 inappropriate comment regarding how my body shaped looked in the outfit I was wearing. Was wearing black skirt with off white top. Closed door to my office as he said it. inappropriate comment regarding how the dress really highlighted my shape. 'you can really see your weight loss.' inappropriate comment. I was wearing my hair straight and said, "I really like women with long hair I'm a long hair type of guy." (witnesses:
The copy of the email that provided to the OIG included handwritten notes that she took during her conversation with indicating that the incident on office, and the other two occurred in office.
When interviewed by the OIG, and were inappropriate and made her uncomfortable.

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The OIG interviewed who were both identified by as witnesses to the statement.	
told the OIG that she did not recall making any inappropriate or sexually suggestive comments towards and in a presence. In the said that if the felt that someone looked particularly well dressed, such as for a meeting, he would compliment them on their outfit, stating something to the effect of, "Oh, I like that dress/outfit," but he did so in a professional, rather than sexually suggestive way and said that she did not recall ever hearing and comment on anyone's weight or hair.	
further told the OIG that she did recall that, sometime in early to told her about a comment that allegedly made about liking and long hair, and told that she thought the comment was "weird." I told the OIG that asked if she remembered being present and witnessing the comment, but told to that she did not. Said that she wondered at the time, however, why was even asking her about it. Said that she could not recall the specific context of the conversation in which work brought this up.	
told the OIG that the presence is a never made an offensive comment in her presence, nor was she aware of any employee who felt is a said anything inappropriate in the workplace. Specifically, is a said she was not aware of any comments made by the concerning the physical appearance of female employees, including	
During an administratively compelled interview with the OIG, and a denied making the accomment that attributed to him regarding how her body shape looked in the outfit she was wearing.	
"I would definitely not say anything about your clothing looks nice on you[,] how it fits[,] or anything like that. had volunteered to several people that she was on a diet at one time. Openly in groups so I may have complimented her[,] well you sure look nice[,] or your weight loss program or something[,] like that but never in a manner that would be construed by any reasonable individual that I was making any kind of negative comment."	
also denied making the comment that attributed to him regarding how the dress she was wearing highlighted her shape, allegedly saying something similar to "you can really see	

"Same comment. I would never have said that the clothing you're wearing highlights your body."

said that he did not recall making the second comment that the stated occurred in the presence of second and second when second allegedly said to her, "I really like women with long hair... I'm a long hair type of guy." Second declined to speculate whether it was possible that he made the comment but could not recall doing so. However, when asked whether he could say that it was the type of comment that he definitely would not have made, stated, "No. I can't say that I would not have said, 'I like long hair."

OIG's Conclusion

your weight loss."

stated:

The OIG investigation concluded that did engage in the misconduct as alleged regarding comments



	CORNEL .
he made on and on all in violation Attorney G Memorandum #2015-04 – Prevention of Harassment in the Workplace, dated October 9, 201 and did not recall the comment, the OIG credits light of her contemporaneous memorialization of the incidents contained in her	15. While
Asked a Subordinate to Wash his Personal Car	
During her OIG interview, alleged that a occasionally had an employ wash his car for him. could not recall alleged that are but explained employee responsible for	ee named that he was an
During the interview of the second state of a sked whether she was aware of an incident asked and the employee to wash his car. In the state of the state of a run may have asked to wash to wash the second state of a run of the second state of the	mor that
to wash personal car. told the OIG that she was aware that personal vehicle "a couple" of times, which she defined as more than once but few times. stated that she believed that told her about the car washes. sa could not recall when each incident occurred, or when why told her about it, or what he said. said that she never spoke to a told the OIG that told the OIG that that he had washed personal car, which described as that she did not know how many times this occurred, although she stated "it sounded like it told told sourced.	aid that she puld not recall bout the subject. said was more than
once." When the OIG asked the provide the provided appeared to feel about being asked to do stated, "I don't think he was pleased." When asked whether she offered any advice to stated, "knowing me, I probably said that that's not appropriate." Said that she could her not to say anything to said that she did not discuss the matter further with anyone said that she did not discuss the matter furthe	, uld not recall anyone.
stated that told him that had asked personal vehicle to a commercial car wash. If the stated that the stated that the stated complain about howdirty his car was, and, and that I can't believe he made him go wash the car. And now make him do it. He asked him to do it." Later in the interview stated, "I think doing that favor for him because I, like I said, they are close." If said that he only disc matter with the once, and he could not recall when it happened other than sometime said that he did not know how many times washed car, where he to washed, or how payment was arranged.	w, he didn't enjoyed cussed the

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, told the OIG that	a	
	office that whene car washed." Wh t happy about it.	nen asked how Didn't want to do it.

The OIG interviewed	twice concerning this allegation.	During the first interview,	stated that
hired him			
	stated that sometime d	uring he washed and	polished the rims
	while it was parked in the garage		-
	own initiative, without consulting	and the second se	ed washing his
own car which was parked no	ear vehicle. When	later advised that	he had done so,
asked him why.	stated that he responded to	that he was washing h	Contra and a second
	rims could use cleaning.	told the OIG that	-
"well, thanks, but you should	In't have done that." denied	d washing entire	car, and further
denied that asked hir	n to do so.		

During the second interview, which was administratively compelled and took place after the OIG had obtained testimony from other witnesses, stated that he took personal vehicle, which he described as

on two occasions in and paid \$19 or \$19.99 in cash each time to have it washed. reimbursed after the first wash by giving him a \$20 bill. cash in gave advance of the second wash to cover the cost. stated that it was his idea to wash car. stated that he took his own vehicle to the car wash first, then approached and asked, "did he need me to wash his car?", and that stated that he did not need to obtain the keys said yes. because was in the practice of leaving them in his car. stated that on both from occasions, which were approximately 1 month apart, he took vehicle to the car wash during his said that later , or possibly washed and polished the rims lunch hour. tires, as described during his first OIG interview. When of advised that he had requested that never do it again in order to avoid an appearance of favoritism. done so, denied telling anyone that he washed s car, including said that somehow heard about it nonetheless, and would sometimes jokingly say things when the telephone rang such - he wants you to wash his car." as "it's

During his administratively compelled interview with the OIG, denied asking denied asking to wash his personal car, but he admitted that did so on two occasions. In described the first incident as follows:

"Came to me...and he said, the says, 'Your car needs washing. Let me take your car to this place I know up in wherever it was and get it washed.' And I said, 'No. I take a back road every day and my car is going to get dirty.' He kept on and kept on and kept on and kept on saying, 'Please let me take it to go get it washed.' And I said, 'The said, 'You cannot do that on official time. If you want to go and do that on your lunch hour you can do that but I have to pay for it.' And that's what happened."



stated that took his personal car to a commercial car wash twice, then never asked to do it again. Could not recall the approximate length of time that elapsed between the two occurrences, and he declined to speculate. On both occasions, the car wash cost approximately \$20, which he provided to in cash. So is a believed that he paid in advance on both occasions. So is a said that he could not confirm or deny whether is took the vehicle to car Wash is a said that this occurred several years ago, and he could not recall whether he was still driving

stated that	wiped down the wheel wells of	personal car, then told	about it
later. told	, "You can't do that. You're not all	owed to do that." asl	ked him if he was
in trouble, to which	responded, "No, but you can't do	that."	

OIG's Conclusion

The OIG concluded that **a set of** exhibited poor judgment when he permitted **a set of** to take personal car to a car wash during **a set of** lunch hour on two occasions. The OIG found that conduct amounted to poor judgment because it created the appearance of potential violations of federal regulations regarding use of official time, acceptance of gifts from employees, and use of public office for private gain.

Asked Subordinates to Run Personal Errands for Him

alleged that, in addition to the matter concerning	washing	car,	used
other subordinate staff members to conduct personal business for	him. Specifically	, she allege	d the
following:			

2) expects	to get coffee for him in the mornings.
goes to the coffee shop	to get coffee for
did not know who paid for the coffee.	

3) **The second s**





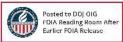
When asked whether she ever made coffee for replied that she did so occasionally when she made coffee for herself. She added, however, that also occasionally made coffee for her. stated that she did not remember ever asking any other employee to bring him lunch said that occasionally someone might "stick their head" into office to inform him or coffee. whether they could bring him some as well, but that they were going out for coffee and then ask did not recall ever initiating such a request. stated that she could not recall a single employee to do a personal favor for him, such as washing his car or instance when asked an giving him a ride anywhere for other than official purposes.

described to the OIG as "coffee girl" who "picked up where left off"

told the OIG that used to get coffee for "fairly regularly, a couple times a week," but that the frequency decreased over time. According to provided with his debit or credit card to cover the cost of the coffee. recalled that had at least one conversation with her, probably in , in which she expressed the fact that she did not appreciate being asked to get coffee for described that conversation as a "venting session," rather than as an official complaint and a request for her assistance. added, "to be fair, if he was going to get coffee, he would ask all of us if we wanted anything." Similarly, stated that she and used to occasionally purchase lunch for and bring it back to the office if they were going to get lunch themselves. said that on those occasions. would always pay for the meal – sometimes in advance, and sometimes as reimbursement. said that reciprocated by purchasing lunch for and bringing it back to her in the office if he was going out to lunch himself.

told the OIG that if she were going to get coffee, usually at the coffee shop

sometimes ask in the would like for her to get him a cup as well. Sometimes ask in the would give her cash or a coffee gift card, and would sometimes offer to treat her as well. Sometimes asid that she used to get the coffee more often in the past than she did at the time of her interview – she estimated that it occurred approximately biweekly, and included a limited number of occasions when the asked her directly if she could bring him back coffee when she was stepping out to do something else. Again, in those situations to gave her money or a gift card for the coffee and sometimes offered to treat her as well.



further stated that offen called the office to discuss the day's schedule when he was driving to work, and he generally spoke to either or

him coffee when she went to the coffee shop herself, so that the coffee would be there when he arrived and before he began his meetings. So a said that she may have made a similar request to so on one occasion as well.

denied driving the to personal appointments such as shopping and to the bank. She recalled that on one occasion, she and the discussed the possibility of her driving him to the airport during off duty hours when he was traveling on personal business. She did not recall further details, stating "it was so long ago." However, she did recall that she did not drive him to the airport; she believed that his family drove him there instead.

recalled to the OIG that	mentioned to her that	asked her to drive	him to the airport
once when he was leaving on a persona	al trip. recalled th	did not do so,	because she was
concerned about	if she drove	to the airport after hours	did not
know whether had asked	to drive him to the air	port using his vehicle or	vehicle.
also stated that on possibly five		, the last occasion	
ordered take-out lunch an	nd asked to drive		and the second
drove personal vehicl			would then circle
the block while went inside to p	pick up his lunch.		

stated that she was not aware of ever calling
anyone while commuting in to work and asking them to have a coffee for him on his desk at the time of his
arrival. Weaver said that never asked her to run personal errands for him, nor was she aware of
anyone in the office to whom he made that request. She said that both she and sometimes ask
if they could bring him coffee when they went for coffee, and that similarly offered to bring
them coffee when he went out. said that put money in a petty cash fund with an average
balance of \$10 that she maintained in a sealed envelope in a drawer, which she used on the occasions that
she purchased coffee for him. stated that told her that requested that she drive him
in his personal vehicle to Airport in approximately or for a
personal trip he was taking. stated, "I told her she was crazybecause she shouldn't be doing
that." When asked how responded to her, stated, "she knew it," and said that was
"venting" about being asked. believed that did, in fact, take to the airport, but she
was not certain.

had each purchased coffee for him on multiple occasions stated that and when they went to get coffee for themselves. stated that he provided them with payment in each maintained a "slush fund" envelope in their further stated that advance. and to cover expenses such as coffee, lunches, and his contribution to desks that contained cash from employees on special occasions. gifts for further stated that he allowed and to use his debit card or a gift card he purchased to cover coffee



stated that he "always" paid for his own coffee and bought coffee for expenses. if they went to the café with debit or gift cards. recalled that used to get coffee and bring it back to him at least once per week by the end of her tenure at which was an increase in frequency compared to her first year in her position. Nonetheless, said that he could not recall an instance when he specifically asked to get coffee for him. stated that he may have requested via telephone while driving to the office that someone purchase coffee for him prior to his arrival if that person intended to go get coffee for themselves. stated that he had no memory of making such a request, but it was possible that he did so on one or two occasions. recalled that he had, in while driving into work and offered to get them coffee on his way in. the past, spoken to 01

said that sometimes offered to pick up lunch for if they were going out themselves. If that discussion occurred while they were in the office, would give them money in advance. said that there was at least one instance when returned with a lunch for that he did not request, when she stated that she suspected he would not have time to eat otherwise, stated that there may also have been occasions when one of them called him while they were out and asked him if they could pick something up for him, in which case he would have reimbursed them later. also stated that it was possible that he requested that go out to get him lunch if he were especially busy, without first offering or saving that she was could not recall such an occurrence, but he acknowledged that it was possible. going out;

stated that there were occasions when he went to lunch with colleagues and subordinates and allowed them to drive his personal vehicle, and on a rare number of occasions, he requested that various personnel drive him to an official meeting or a training in his personal car because a fleet vehicle was unavailable. If there were occasions when he would drive his vehicle to a restaurant, then his colleague or subordinate would drive the vehicle around the block while went inside and retrieved lunch for them.

denied asking the to give him a ride to the airport. The recalled having a discussion with sometime prior the about how he would get to the sometime prior the stated that then said, "Well I can take you," to which responded, "Well, that would be way out of your way." Some said that "she ended up not taking me but that's the extent of that." Some said he could not recall how he did, in fact, get to the airport; he speculated that either his wife drove him, or he drove his car and parked it. Said that he did not think that he would have paid for a cab

OIG's Conclusion

The OIG investigation also did not substantiate the allegation that are prevented subordinates to purchase coffee for him. The investigation did show that subordinates periodically purchased coffee for using funds that he provided in advance. However, with very few possible exceptions, each such instance occurred when the subordinate offered to purchase coffee for when they were going for coffee themselves.

The OIG investigation did conclude that exhibited poor judgment when, on six occasions, he asked a subordinate to drive him somewhere on purely personal business. The OIG found that asked to drive him to pick up lunch on approximately five occasions, and that he asked to drive

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him to the airport on one occasion when he was leaving on a personal trip.

Sexual Harassment of

During the course of this investigation,	advised the OIG that she was told by	2
		d kissed
	on the mouth during a debriefing in his	s office on
		en reported it
both to and	stated that her "jaw dropped" when she heard of t	he incident, and
that she, and "agreed the	hat was terrible," but she did not believe that the int	formation was
reported to anyone in a more senior post	ition.	

told the OIG that are reported to her a second to her a second that are while saying goodbye, gave her a hug and a kiss on the lips. The added, "while I thought, I did find that inappropriate, I wasn't there. And she, she was not telling me that because she felt sexually harassed. She, she told it to me because, I think, she thought it was a bit odd. But she was not upset." I second that she did not feel that was reporting a complaint, but rather "it was in conversation." I second did not report the incident in writing, but she did mention it to behavior was "not appropriate."

	re alone together, probably in his or her of and kissed her directly on the lips.	
with a closed mouth, simi	and kissed her differing on the hps. lar to the sort of kiss one may give to frien neither friend nor family, and felt that the l stated that she mentioned the inciden	nds or family. However, and the set of the
further stated th based on her gender. position	at while she was employed at stated that, for example, shortly afte became vacant and applied	made inappropriate comments to her r began working , the

U.S. Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General PAGE: 13 CASE NUMBER: DATE: July 6, 2020



	Ear	lier FOIA Release
interviewed her for the position. It told the OIG that during the interview, the fact that was female and would have "big shoes to fill." It stated that should and inappropriate that made reference to her gender while assessing whether sh capable of serving as stated that then asked we was appropriate for her to take the position in light of the fact that she was recalled that expressed that perhaps she would want or need to direct her rather than the additional duties of the position. that, despite comments, continued with her application.	he thoug he would hether s	be he felt it
approached and whispered in her ear that he did not recogn the fact that, and he further whispered to her that he asked him beautiful woman?"stated that,sentan email a good looking couple." Included as an attachment to the email was a photo taken standing together. In the photo, aroundfelt thatemail and his verbal comment to her concern appearance were inappropriate.	self, "wh l that sai had	
During a review of DOJ Outlook email for and , the OIG identified an email to dated with the subject line "What a good looking couple!" Attact was a photograph of standing between and In has his right arm behind . responded with an email 20 minutes 1 "Thanks for sharing email featuring a smile emoji composed of a colon and a half parentheses.	thed to the the phot ater sayi	tograph, ng,
denied kissing for the mouth for the mouth but he also could need the solute certainty that the incident did not occur. In recalled that for the day took the in him before she left for the day. In the also recalled making a comment to fold the OIG, "I said I noticed that for the said beautiful woman," responded, "I mean I guess it's possible but I do not recall saying recall saying I did not recognize her for the meant by the subject line, "what a good couple," for the email, which featured for her left, with his right arm behind her back. We his right hand was at the time the photograph was taken, and for her left, with his right arm behind her back. We have the phrase "what a good looking couple" for the subject line of the email.	itiative t d, "who i g that. I mail that d looking e photog hen aske e it is but e photog	to hug is this do t he sent g raph that ed where t it
S Department of Justice PA	GE: 14	



"no particular reason."

OIG's Conclusion

The OIG investigation concluded that made inappropriate comments and engaged in an unsolicited , and that his actions constituted administrative misconduct in violation of kiss on the lips with Attorney General Policy Memorandum #2015-04 – Prevention of Harassment in the Workplace, dated October 9, 2015.

