



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE | OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

## INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 20-103

### Findings of Misconduct by an Assistant United States Attorney for Providing Assistance to the Target of a Federal Investigation and Related Misconduct

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation upon receipt of information from the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA), alleging that an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) had assisted a friend with producing documents in response to a demand for records in a matter in which the AUSA's office had been recused and that was being criminally investigated by another U.S. Attorney's Office.

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegation that the AUSA had assisted in the production of documents in connection with the federal criminal investigation. The OIG investigation also found that the AUSA had contacted the Chief of the local Office of the Federal Public Defender, asking him to provide the AUSA's friend with a strong defense attorney. The OIG investigation further found that the AUSA had provided advice regarding the investigation to the AUSA's friend and the friend's attorney. The AUSA's conduct violated Department of Justice regulations prohibiting the provision of personal services involving a criminal matter and involving an investigation in which the Department of Justice was a party. The AUSA's conduct also violated multiple provisions of the Department's "Outside Employment and Activities" policy by participating in a matter in which the AUSA's office had a material conflict; used the AUSA's public office for the private gain of the AUSA's friend; and violated the AUSA's office's recusal order in the case against the AUSA's friend.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to EOUSA and the Department's Office of Professional Responsibility for appropriate action.



Unless otherwise noted, the OIG applies the preponderance of the evidence standard in determining whether Department of Justice (DOJ) personnel have committed misconduct.