

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

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INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Findings of Misconduct by a Then Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Misuse of DOJ-Issued Computers and for False Statements

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation upon receipt of information from the employing DOJ division alleging that a then Deputy Assistant Attorney General (DAAG) had been observed viewing sexually explicit images on the DAAG's government computer.

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegation that the then DAAG viewed sexually explicit images on the DAAG's government computers, in violation of DOJ policy. An OIG forensic examination of two DOJ computers issued to the DAAG determined that the computers contained data regarding numerous sexually explicit website searches, visits to websites hosting sexually explicit videos, sexually explicit search engine terms, and sexually explicit images. The OIG investigation also substantiated that the DAAG made false statements under oath to the OIG. During the DAAG's initial OIG interview, the DAAG denied accessing or viewing sexually explicit websites or material from a government computer. In a follow-up interview, after being confronted with the preliminary results of the OIG forensic examination, the DAAG ultimately admitted to the OIG that the DAAG may have intentionally accessed pornographic websites using government computers. The DAAG resigned before the investigation concluded.

Criminal prosecution of the DAAG was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided a report to the DOJ employing division and to the DOJ Office of Professional Responsibility for their information.

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

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