



Inspector General

2026-0004-INVI-P — Alleged Ethics Violations and Outside Employment

On February 24, 2026, the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) received allegations that an employee owned a private security company which was providing executive protection and contracted security to Members of Congress. OIG initiated an investigation into the alleged violations of AOC policy as well as potential criminal and civil violations.

OIG's investigation found that the employee is the Chief Executive Officer and founder of both a private security company and a training institute offering courses in protection, security, weapons, and defensive tactics. OIG's review of documentary evidence confirmed the employee had submitted a request for outside employment in 2018 related to their United States (U.S.) military service but no additional requests for outside employment had been submitted since that time. Both documentary and testimonial evidence confirmed that, in addition to maintaining contracts with private clients and other Government agencies, the company provided protection for multiple Members of Congress and their families. OIG's investigation determined that since founding the company in 2021, the employee had taken over 1,000 hours of Leave Without Pay (unrelated to their military service) from the AOC, partially to support the company's business operations.

Contrary to the employee's statements made during an interview, the OIG found more than 1,100 security company-related documents stored on the employee's AOC OneDrive, including bank records, contracts (identifying Congressional offices), payroll records, insurance and legal documents, and employee personal information. OIG also found over 800 U.S. military documents on the same OneDrive, including personnel records, soldier identification numbers, soldier medical records, and briefing documents.

The employee admitted to OIG agents that there may have been one or two instances in which they inadvertently left a firearm in their vehicle while it was parked on U.S. Capitol grounds. A consensual search of their vehicle identified items consistent with executive protection and private security work but found no firearms or prohibited items. It was also discovered during the interview that they had hired other AOC employees to work for their company or an associated sub-contractor.

The investigation identified sufficient evidence to substantiate violations of multiple AOC policies. OIG presented the investigative findings related to potential criminal and civil violations to the U.S. Attorney's Office in Washington, D.C., which declined prosecution citing discretion, resource considerations, and the availability of administrative remedies. Potential violations of U.S. Military regulations or standard operating procedures were referred to the appropriate military OIG for their awareness and any action deemed appropriate.



Final Management Action: On September 14, 2026, OIG submitted the Report of Investigation to AOC management for any action deemed appropriate. OIG separately referred the outside employment concerns regarding the additional employees to AOC management for any action deemed appropriate (2026-0018-INVR-P). The case is closed pending AOC management action.