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INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Alleged Use of a Foreign Email Address and Sharing of Confidential Contractual Information with a DOL Contractor

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) received an allegation that a senior U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) employee: (1) used a foreign email address on official correspondence and (2) passed sensitive contractual information to a DOL contractor.

During the investigation, the OIG determined that the contracting company who had sent the email to the DOL employee using a foreign email address had a prior data breach and that internal business email addresses had been changed in their systems, to include the DOL employee's email address. In addition, the OIG found that information related to extensions and termination of contracts was passed to the contractor by an undetermined DOL employee.

On December 7, 2022, the OIG referred the findings to DOL's Chief Information Officer in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management for review and administrative action. On January 23, 2023, DOL notified OIG that no action was warranted.

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