

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL U.S. Department of Labor

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INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

Senior DOL Employee Running a Personal Business While on Extended Medical Leave

The OIG received an allegation that a Program Analysis Officer in DOL's Performance Management Center (PMC), was running a personal business while on extended medical leave from their position with PMC.

Our investigation determined that three days before the employee was scheduled to return to PMC from a detail position, the employee requested extended sick leave due to a "serious health condition" that rendered the employee unable to work, in any capacity, within DOL. The investigation substantiated that while on sick, annual, and leave without pay, the employee was working in multiple personal businesses. The employee participated in paid public speaking engagements attended by other federal employees, taught a Supervisory Development Course as a contract instructor for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), held office as the president of a private association, and is the founder and CEO of a certified professional coaching business catering to federal government agencies and nonprofit organizations. In addition, the employee solicited DOL employees, via their government email address, to participate in a fee-based event hosted by the employee. The solicitation email included instructions on how to register using the company Data Universal Numbering System's number and Commercial and Government Entity code number for accepting payments from federal agencies.

Prior to completion of the investigation, the OIG was notified that the employee requested disability retirement from OPM. The OIG was later notified that after denial of the disability retirement, the employee refused to return to duty as instructed and on November 29, 2020, DOL terminated the employee for excessive absence and being "absent without official leave."

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