



NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

Office of Inspector General
14675 Lee Road
Chantilly, VA 20151-1715



6 July 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
PRINCIPAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

SUBJECT: (U) Referral: 5 CFR Part 2635.704 Use of Government Property
(Case Number 19-0291-C)

(U//~~FOUO~~) The National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) Office of Inspector General (OIG) received a complaint in October 2019 alleging [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] used contractor employees serving as [redacted] special assistants to perform personal errands. The NRO OIG investigated the allegation to determine if [redacted] violated Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, 5 CFR 2635.704 Use of Government property, which prohibits an employee from using Government property¹ or allowed its use for other than authorized purposes.

(b)(3)
(b)(7)(c)

(U//~~FOUO~~) The OIG interviewed [redacted] former and current [redacted]² Both [redacted] worked under the [redacted] [redacted] Both [redacted] stated they performed occasional personal errands for [redacted] to include preparing [redacted] tea, getting [redacted] lunches from the Westfields cafeteria, scheduling personal appointments, watering [redacted] plants, withdrawing funds from [redacted] personal bank account via an automated teller machine for money supporting office celebrations, and obtaining refreshments for office events. Both [redacted] stated they often volunteered to perform these activities due to [redacted] busy schedule. However, on some occasions, [redacted] tasked them to perform these errands. Both [redacted] stated they considered the errands minor and infrequent, but acknowledged the time was charged to the [redacted] contract since the actions were performed during duty hours.³

(b)(3)

(b)(3)
(b)(7)(c)

(U//~~FOUO~~) The OIG interviewed the NRO contracting officer (CO) for the [redacted] contract. The CO stated personal errands are not authorized under the [redacted] contract. The OIG's review of the [redacted] contract,

(b)(3)

¹ (U) Government property, as defined in 5 CFR 2635.704 (b) (1), includes the services of contractor personnel.

² (U//~~FOUO~~) [redacted]

(b)(3)
(b)(7)(c)

[redacted]

³ (U) The OIG did not assess the total amount of time performed by the [redacted] on the personal errands.

including supporting documents, such as the statement of work (SOW), identified no requirement for [redacted] to provide errands and services as a personal convenience.⁴

(b)(3)

(U//~~FOUO~~) The OIG interviewed [redacted] regarding [redacted] alleged use of contractor services for the performance of personal errands. [redacted] stated [redacted] accepted and allowed [redacted] former and current [redacted] to perform errands for [redacted] explained that the [redacted] often voluntarily took on the tasks. However, on a few occasions, the errands may have been conducted at [redacted] request. [redacted] explained that on some occasions [redacted] tried to discourage the [redacted] from performing the errands, but the [redacted] would perform the errands anyway. [redacted] took responsibility for the contractors' actions in consideration of [redacted] role as the [redacted] in [redacted]

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3)

(U//~~FOUO~~) The OIG will not further investigate the allegation.⁵ We are referring this matter to you for your review and action as appropriate. The OIG notified the NRO's [redacted] within the Office of General Counsel (OGC) of this referral. The [redacted] is prepared to provide guidance in this matter to NRO senior managers as appropriate. We request that you inform the OIG of any action taken within 45 days of your receipt of this memorandum. Please provide your written response to [redacted] Special Agent in Charge, OIG Westfields.

(b)(3)

(U//~~FOUO~~) You may share this information with any parties as necessary to take appropriate action. Questions regarding this memorandum may be directed to [redacted]

(b)(3)

[redacted]

Assistant Inspector General
For Investigations

⁴ (U) [redacted] SOW requires [redacted] to maintain calendars, arrange travel and training requests, edit documents, process visitor requests, distribute official mail, schedule conference rooms, support trouble tickets, and track office work products.

(b)(3)

⁵ (U//~~FOUO~~) The original complaint also contained an allegation that [redacted] misused [redacted] position to influence a personnel action within [redacted]. The OIG did not develop any information supporting this claim.

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(c)