



INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2010-09-0230

September 30, 2011

IWM CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Inspector General Staff Attorney Amanda Schaeffer Lufkin, after an investigation by Special Agents Chuck Coffin and Darrell Boehmer, reports as follows:

In September of 2010, during an unrelated investigation, Special Agent Charles Coffin received an anonymous letter suggesting that an Indiana War Memorial (IWM) employee's home (Defendant) should be checked for "I.W.M. TV's" and other items from the IWM.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is charged by statute to carry out activities designed to deter, detect, and eradicate fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, and misconduct in state government. IC 4-2-7-3(2).

Special Agent Chuck Coffin was assigned to investigate further. With his review of the anonymous letter and witness statements, he began searching for documentation relating to the disposition of an IWM Museum television which was confirmed to be missing. He pursued its location in various agencies, including the Indiana Department of Administration State and Federal Surplus

Divisions. He also made contact with the original seller of the television and other entities that reportedly may have had temporary use of it.

All these sources indicated knowledge that this television had been present at the IWM, but none could advise of its current location.

Based upon the investigation at that point, a search warrant for the television and other items missing from the IWM was obtained for the Defendant's home. During the execution of the search warrant at the Defendant's home, Special Agent Coffin observed a television matching the description of the missing television setting at an angle in the southeast corner of the living room. Other items were discovered at the Defendant's home with State of Indiana property tags visible on them.

Through earlier interviews, Special Agent Coffin had learned that the Defendant had furniture built for his home using IWM wood and materials. Furniture items built from these materials were also observed and recovered during the search warrant.

Special Agent Coffin had also been advised by witnesses that gasoline purchases made by the Defendant on a state issued gas card should also be reviewed. Special Agent Darrell Boehmer investigated this allegation. He contacted the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA). IDOA issues credit cards to specified state employees for the purchase of gasoline for state vehicles and equipment. One of the cards issued to the IWM is classified as a Shop Card and is not issued to a vehicle, but is used to purchase fuel for the lawn equipment at the IWM property. All IWM property is located in downtown Indianapolis.

The other cards were assigned to specific vehicles owned by IWM. Gas card use is limited to fuel and vehicle expenses, and personal use of the card is not permitted. Defendant was not issued a vehicle at the IWM, and no permission for the personal use of a state vehicle was authorized, yet gasoline purchases were made by the Defendant outside of his assigned duties.

This case was submitted to the Marion County Prosecutor's Office for the thefts of the gasoline, the furniture items, and the television. In September of 2011, the Marion County Prosecutor filed criminal charges of Corrupt Business Influence, Theft, and Official Misconduct.

Dated this 30th day of September, 2011.

APPROVED BY:

/signed/

David O. Thomas, Inspector General