



INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Lori Torres, Inspector General

OFFICE: INDIANA STATE BUDGET AGENCY (SBA)
TITLE: THEFT OF STATE PROPERTY
CASE ID: 2020-03-0080
DATE: April 8, 2020

Inspector General Staff Attorney Kelly Elliott, after an investigation by Inspector General Assistant Director of Investigations, Special Agent Mark Mitchell, reports as follows:

The Indiana General Assembly charged the Office of Inspector General (OIG) with addressing fraud, waste, abuse and wrongdoing in the executive branch of state government. I.C. § 4-2-7-2(b). The OIG investigates criminal activity and ethics violations by state workers. I.C. § 4-2-7-3. The OIG is authorized to assist other law enforcement agencies and coordinate investigations. I.C. § 4-2-7-3.

On March 16, 2020, the Indiana State Budget Agency (SBA) notified the OIG that an SBA employee's (Employee) state-issued laptop had been stolen from his personal vehicle. SBA stated that according to their agency manual, SBA must report stolen (or suspected stolen) assets to the Indiana State Police's (ISP) Capitol Police Division (Capitol Police) and to the OIG prior to retiring the asset. OIG Assistant Director Mark Mitchell assisted Capitol Police in the investigation of the matter.

Assistant Director Mitchell learned that on March 13, 2020, the Employee parked his personal vehicle overnight on a public street in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Employee left his state-issued laptop computer in the vehicle. On March 14, the Employee returned to his vehicle and discovered the rear passenger window was broken and his state-issued laptop computer was stolen. The Employee immediately reported the incident to ISP and his agency supervisor. An ISP trooper arrived at the

scene and spoke with the Employee. The Employee told the trooper that his laptop computer was in a laptop bag placed behind the center console in the rear seat of his vehicle and covered with a jacket. The trooper permitted the Employee to search his vehicle for other missing items. The Employee reported that the only item missing from his vehicle was the laptop computer.

On March 23, 2020, the Employee reported to the OIG that a member of the public (Individual) contacted him via Facebook Messenger about his stolen laptop computer. The Employee stated that the Individual told him that she found a laptop computer in her dumpster and when she powered up the laptop computer the Employee's name appeared. Assistant Director Mitchell contacted the Individual and arranged to pick-up the Employee's laptop computer. Assistant Director Mitchell then contacted Capitol Police to obtain identifiers for the laptop computer and notify Capitol Police that he would be retrieving the laptop computer from the Individual.

Assistant Director Mitchell then met the Individual at her residence in Indianapolis, Indiana. He verified that the laptop computer in the Individual's possession was the Employee's state-issued laptop computer. Assistant Director Mitchell took possession of the laptop computer, bag and charger and notified Capitol Police of the OIG's possession of the items. On March 24, 2020, Assistant Director Mitchell turned over the Employee's laptop computer, bag and charger to the Indiana Office of Technology, who maintains all of the State's computer assets.

ISP and Capitol Police have closed their investigation of the matter with no leads on the perpetrator of the theft. As a result, the OIG is closing this matter.

Dated: April 8, 2020

APPROVED BY:



Lori Torres, Inspector General