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Released date: 23-March-2016

Posted date: 11-July-2016

Source of document:

FOIA Request National Credit Union Administration Office of Inspector General (OIG) 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA, 22314 Fax: 703-518-6349 Email: FOIA@ncua.gov

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# **Office of Inspector General**

March 23, 2016

SENT VIA EMAIL

RE: Your FOIA Request #OIGFOIA-2016-03

This is in response to your letter dated March 2, 2016, requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. Specifically, you requested a "copy of the final report, report of investigation (ROI), closing memo, closing report, referral memo, investigative memo, referral letter and any other conclusory document from each of the following investigations:

- 10-PI-R9-01
- 10-PI-R9-02
- 10-R-R9-03
- 10-PI-R3-04
- 10-PI-R4-05
- 10-PI-R7-06
- 10-I-R2-07
- 10-I-R9-08
- 10-I-R7-09
- 10-I-R3-10

I have provided herewith twenty-nine (29) pages responsive to your request. Information redacted from these pages qualifies for protection under subsections (b)(6) and (b)(7)(C) of the FOIA. Subsection (b)(6) permits agencies to withhold information the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Subsection (b)(7)(C) protects information compiled for law enforcement purposes if its release could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Should you consider any or all of the determinations set forth above a denial of your request, you have the right to appeal those determinations. An appeal may be in writing and filed within 30 days from the receipt of this initial determination. If you file an appeal, please note "FOIA-APPEAL" in the letter and on the envelope and address your appeal to:

March 23, 2016 Page 2

National Credit Union Administration Office of General Counsel-**FOIA APPEAL** 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3428

Sincerely,

Sham Dem

Sharon Separ Counsel to the Inspector General/ Assistant IG for Investigations

Enclosure

cc: FOIA Officer



# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of the Inspector General Investigations Division

# INVESTIGATIVE MEMORANDUM

**MEMORANDUM TO:** 



SUBJECT:

FROM:

Desk break-in

DATE:

March 3, 2010

#### BACKGROUND

On March 2, 2010, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) received information from National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), that the desk of **Constant of Proceedings** Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) had been pried open.

#### ACTIVITY

On March 2, 2010, the Reporting Agent (RA) initiated a preliminary inquiry into the missing break-in. This inquiry included review of swipe card access logs provided by for the period 3/2/2010 at 3:30pm through 3/3/2010 at 7am. This data was analyzed to identify NCUA staff and others were in the building during the time in question.

The RA conducted an interview with **Constant**. The indicated that **Constant** left the office on March 2, 2010 at approximately 3:30 pm and came to the office on March 4, 2010 at 7:00 am to find the lower 2 drawers on the left hand side of **Constant** desk had been pried open. The top drawer was still locked. **Constant** the only item **Constant** could find missing in office were the keys to **Constant** desk that **Constant** kept in a different drawer. **Constant** stated that the bottom drawer in question is where **Constant** locks **Constant** computer in the evenings. However, on March 2, 2010 **Constant** had taken **Constant** computer home. The RA observed that **Constant** office contained other items of value, such as external hard drives and a radio,

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(2) (4) (2) (3) (3) Desk break-in March 3, 2010

which had not been taken. **Which** said **G** could not think of anyone in particular who would know that **G** kept her computer in the bottom drawer.

The RA conducted interviews of several employees in OCIO who were in the office in the later evening hours on March 2, 2010. None of the employees saw or heard anything out of the ordinary.

(2) (7) (2) (2) (2)

On March 2, 2010, the RA filed an on-line Destruction or vandalism of property report on behalf of with the Alexandria Police Department (Reference No. PD1003020001119) and provided with a copy of the report.

#### **STATUS**

The initial inquiry conducted by the RA did not produce any viable investigative leads to warrant further OIG investigation at this time.

This preliminary inquiry is closed with no further action.

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# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of Inspector General Investigations Division

# INVESTIGATIVE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM TO:

File

SUBJECT:

FROM:

Director of Investigations Theft of Laptop Computer

DATE:

June 30, 2010

#### BACKGROUND

On April 6, 2010, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) received notification that the laptop computer of **Constant of the Central Office**. The computer was taken between 2:45 and 5:30pm while **Central Office**. The computer was taken between 2:45 and 5:30pm

#### ACTIVITY

On April 7, 2010 the Reporting Agent (RA) initiated a preliminary inquiry into the matter. This inquiry encompassed interviews with NCUA staff and contractors and consulting with Alexandria Police Officer

The RA spoke with **Example 100** (Room 3027) on April 6, 2010. **We have** did not recall exactly what time **C** cleaned that area and **C** did not remember whether the computer was on the desk at the time.

The RA spoke with the second s

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(2) (4) (c) (2)(c)

#### Theft of Laptop Computer<sup>1</sup> June 30, 2010

for signing in all visitors to the building. The reported that the contractors for HITT sign out and are escorted out at approximately 2:00pm each day.

The RA contacted **Constant of the second sec** 

The RA filed an online theft of property report with the Alexandria Police Department on behalf of the RA to come to NCUA to investigate the computer theft. Indicated that there have been an alarming number of computer thefts in the buildings in our area. The RA took is to the office in question, provided is with the statement written by to the office of and briefed to on the investigative steps already taken. It stated that the Police Department would be investigating because of the number of other thefts in the area. The RA informed him we would be closing our investigation, but that we would provide assistance if requested.

#### STATUS

The initial inquiry conducted by the RA did not produce any viable investigative leads to warrant further OIG investigation at this time. The investigation was turned over to the Alexandria Police.

This preliminary inquiry is closed with no further action.

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# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of Inspector General Investigations Division

# MEMORANDUM TO:

File

FROM:

(b)(7)(c) **Director of Investigations** 

SUBJECT:

GAO Referral NCUA Financial Statement Audit

DATE:

June 18, 2010

# BACKGROUND

On April 21, 2010, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) received a referral from the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO). The GAO FraudNET received an Internet submission form from an anonymous source alleging the National Credit Union Administration, as custodian of the National Credit Union Shared Insurance Fund (NCUSIF), has failed to present a CPA Opinion Audit for 2008 or 2009 as required by the Federal Credit Union Act.

The Office of Inspector General is the organization within NCUA responsible for contracting with an independent public accounting firm to perform the financial statement audits of the NCUA Operating Fund, the Share Insurance Fund, the Central Liquidity Facility and the Community Development Revolving Loan Fund. At the time of the referral, the OIG was working assiduously with the accounting firms responsible for the 2008 and 2009 audits, Deloitte & Touche LLP and KPMG LLP.

#### STATUS

The audit results for both years were published on June 12, 2010. The firms both expressed unqualified opinions, stating that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the NCUA Operating Fund,

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GAO Referral 55343 June 18, 2010

the Share Insurance Fund, the Central Liquidity Facility, and the Community Development Revolving Loan Fund.

This referral is closed with no further action.

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Form OI-16D 07/2008



# National Credit Union Administration

#### Office of Inspector General

SENT VIA EMAIL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Region III

FROM:

William A. DeSarno 1 Inspector General

Complaint against

DATE: May 21, 2010

SUBJ:

This memorandum serves to notify you that, at this time, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) does not intend to open an investigation into recent complaints against Region III

Jellevit 1

would be better addressed by **Constant of** First and second line supervisors, in consultation with NCUA's Division of Employee Relations, Office of Human Resources (OHR). However, we do request that if, upon examination of relevant time records, you find any indication that a recent private sector temporary employee who **Constant of** supervised, **Constant of** was paid for time during the week of April 5-9 that **Constant of** work, you forward such information to my office. At that time, we will reconsider whether an investigation is warranted.

b b

On May 10, 2010, my office received an anonymous complaint against **Constitution**, presumably from **Constitution**, the OIG's Director of Investigations, a separate but distinctly similar complaint that was sent anonymously to NCUA's Office of General Counsel on April 28, 2010. Both complaints alleged that **Constitution** was behaving inappropriately with **Constitution** by according **Constitution** preferential treatment based on **Constitution** and the manner in which **Constitution** acash award for **Constitution**; extending **Constitution**; extending **Constitution**; extending **Constitution**; extending **Constitution**; and the manner in which **Constitution**; and authorizing **Constitution**; budget; approving payment for time **Constitution**; did not work; and authorizing **Constitution**; to have access to protected employee information. The complaints also referenced time fraud and persistent sexual harassment on **Constitution** part.

You informed us that **Example to be** engagement with Region III ended on May 13, 2010, and that Region III is currently working with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) to reallocate approximately

<sup>1</sup> We subsequently learned that OHR initially advised **Control** that **(a)** could give an on-the-spot cash award in the form of a gift card to a temporary employee. However, when OHR realized that the temp employee came from the private sector, it reversed its advice, and told **(b)** he could not authorize the cash award.

\$5,000 from other budget categories to fund the temp position through the end of last week. With regard to the sexual harassment allegations against **Constant and the sexual harassment allegations against**, we learned that in September 2009, Equal Opportunity Program (EOP) Director **Constant and the sexual harassment** (EOP) Dire

Given the persistent recurrence of the same types of allegations against **Constant**, we believe that **Constant** case would be more appropriately handled by **Constant** supervisors as a performance matter. While we encourage all NCUA employees and managers to "report promptly to the OIG any reasonable belief or allegation that any NCUA employee . . . may have engaged in any activity involving criminal or other serious or significant misconduct . . ."<sup>2</sup> we do not generally initiate formal investigations into matters that fall within the supervisory responsibilities of managers or are the program responsibilities of other NCUA offices (e.g., EOP), respectively.

(2) (1) (2) (2) (2)

Once you inquire into the allegations more thoroughly, if you believe that any or all of these issues might warrant an investigation by my office, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of my staff.

#### Cc: Herb Yolles

Acting Regional Director, RIII

<sup>2</sup> See NCUA Instruction No. 1919.08, "Guidelines and Responsibilities for Reporting Investigative Matters to the Inspector General" (Rev. October 14, 2003).



# National Credit Union Administration Office of Inspector General

MEMORANDUM TO:

Lawrence Blankenberger Associate RD, Programs Region IV

FROM:

DATE:

Director of Investigations

SUBJECT:

August 6, 2010

Allegation against

This memorandum serves to notify you that, at this time, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) does not intend to open an investigation into the recent allegations against **Compared Research**, Examiner.

On June 9, 2010, the OIG received a referral from your office regarding concerns raised by the second secon

During a preliminary inquiry, I spoke to **control** Executive Vice President. **28**. Executive Vice President. **28**. They informed NCUA because they felt that we would want to know about the conduct. **28** did not feel that **28** actions had a significant impact on the exam.

I also spoke with a second who confirmed that a second had made an offensive comment when a second employee of the credit union passed the office where they were meeting. In addition, **Consequence** reported that in addition to making what considered derogatory comments about **Consequence** was not thorough in this examination. In fact, according to **Consequence** did not question anything and had no findings. When questioned by **Consequence** said, "I don't care, I'm trying to get out of here for an early weekend." When **Consequence** is asked for clarification on a section of the report, **Consequence** told him to "ask **Consequence**" In closing **Consequence** shared that **Consequence** pulled him out of a credit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Collector's name was withheld because she did not want to be interviewed.

wanted who has supervised a couple of years.

of the exam, when the conversation with the Collector took place. were that 🐨 was "roaming around" and didn't seem to be doing 📹 job. stated that did not speak with a second about performance at that time.

Finally, I spoke with and the Collections Manager, -Bredit Union who is the supervisor of the Collector. spent 15 or 20 minutes at the desk of the Collector. It appeared to that the conversation was personal in nature, but Cannot be sure because although Could hear them talking could not hear the actual words. Could confirm that at some point in their conversation **Conversation** when asked, the Collector denied that the conversation was personal or that had asked for ephone number. The said that the same had been asking the about collection department issues and had also told path about a job opening at NCUA. Both stated that even if **the state had been examining the** collection department, which he was not, the Collector would not have been the appropriate employee to question about policy.

In conclusion, although I have been able to confirm that acted Credit Union, this action unprofessionally during the examination at does not rise to the level of misconduct. After consultation with , we believe this case would be more appropriately handled by 4 supervisors as a performance matter. While we encourage all NCUA employees and managers to "report promptly to the OIG any reasonable belief or allegation that any NCUA employee... may have engaged in any activity involving criminal or other serious or significant misconduct..."<sup>2</sup> we do not generally initiate formal investigations into matters that fall within the supervisory responsibilities of managers or are the program responsibilities of other NCUA offices.

Cc: C. Keith Morton Regional Director, RIV

that

I talked to Supervisory Examiner

<sup>2</sup> See NCUA Instruction No. 1919.08, "Guidelines and Responsibilities for Reporting Investigative Matters to the Inspector General" (Rev. October 14, 2003).

told to "I've been waiting" all union meeting on the last day of the exam. morning to meet with you, although no meeting had been scheduled. had interrupted his credit union meeting because to leave early.



# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of the Inspector General Investigations Division

# INVESTIGATIVE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM TO:

FROM:

Director of Investigations

File

SUBJECT:

Anonymous Complaint against Mike Barton

DATE:

August 26, 2010

#### BACKGROUND

On June 23, 2010, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) received an allegation from the analysis of the optimized who was temporarily employed at the Asset Management and Assistance Center (AMAC) as a contractor. The complaint alleged that the asset was asked to "work off the clock." In other words, the alleged that the asset of the clock.

work eight and a half hours a day and only claim eight on time report.

### ACTIVITY

On July 1, 2010 the Reporting Agent (RA) initiated a preliminary inquiry into the allegations. This inquiry encompassed review of relevant files, documentation and interviews of the involved parties.

Based on information obtained from these sources, the RA did not find substantive information to support the allegation.

#### STATUS

This preliminary inquiry is closed with no further action.

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Form OI-16D 07/2008 Office of the Inspector General – Investigations National Credit Union Administration ِ ه) (مَ

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asked and to



# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of the Inspector General Investigations Division

# INVESTIGATIVE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM TO:

File

FROM:

Director of Investigations

SUBJECT:

and a second second

DATE:

November 22, 2010

# BACKGROUND

On August 23, 2010, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) received an allegation from Specifically, Grant Supplied an email from Sector and Antiparties, an examiner in CA which contains language suggesting Sector might attempt to use position as a Credit Union examiner to influence a financial transaction with Credit Union.<sup>1</sup> Misuse of position would constitute an administrative

<sup>1</sup> Email dated	October 23, 2009 –		
From:		<u>.</u>	
To:	والالالا المشعر بالبلاطي		
			راالعق
			10
Subject:	Actions in Respon	se to My Inquiry	

You are not being truthful with me about responding to my inquiry, rather you have placed an order for repossession. I cannot prevent you from taking this action; however, if you agree to accept the vehicle as full payment, I will arrange for its pickup. (The vehicle is in excellent condition.) Should **Graph** sue me for a deficiency balance, I will counter sue for damages.

I was an examiner at the FCU and am aware of illegal lending practices. I am also aware of required consumer disclosures **Constant** FCU failed to provide. As you did not provide me with my complete file, you will be required to provide it, as well as other information, when I file my counter-claim. If I were you, I would consult with the credit union's surety bond holder. **Constant** practices were systemic and therefore grounds for a class action for violating Regulation Z and the ECOA.

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(A)(A); (A)(A)

November 22, 2010

violation of the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees for the Executive Branch.

### ACTIVITY

On August 23, 2010 the Reporting Agent (RA) initiated an investigation into the allegations. This inquiry encompassed issuing a subpoena, records review and interviews with Credit Union personnel.

The review showed that the opened an account with the federal Credit Union (1997) on December 11, 2007. On December 31, 2007 approved the for a car loan in the amount of fifty two thousand, nine hundred ninety-seven dollars and sixty-five cents (\$52,997.65). The assets of the were purchased on September 26, 2008 by The Federal Credit Union (1997), Illinois. The assets of the payment credited in June 2009. According to the loan after the payment spoke with the concerning the delinquent loan, while the found the to be condescending and mean the did not feel intimidated by the nor did the feel that was using the position at the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). In fact, he did not even realize that the was an employee of NCUA until sometime after their conversations.

Resources supplied the RA with documentation that **Examples the interview of the RA** with documentation that **Examples the interview of the in** 

Based on information obtained from these sources, we found no corroborating evidence that **Constant and the position** to influence **F** financial transaction with **Constant** Federal Credit Union.

#### STATUS

This investigation is closed with no further action.

If accepting the vehicle as full payment is acceptable, we can make the appropriate arrangements.

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Form OI-16D 07/2008 Office of the Inspector General – Investigations National Credit Union Administration



# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of Inspector General Investigations Division

# **REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**





# BACKGROUND

On July 10, 2010, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) received an allegation that the state of the state of

mortgage company when his house was sold in a short sale<sup>1</sup>. At the time of the allegation the home was still for sale.

Based on the above allegations, the OIG initiated an inquiry into a potential violation by Rowe of 18 U.S.C. § 1344, Bank Fraud.

The OIG's investigation into the bank fraud allegations led it to review **Constitutes** official filings of (1) United States Office of Government Ethics (OGE) Form 450, *Confidential Financial Disclosure Report*; and (2) SF 85P, *Questionnaire for Public Trust Positions*. The OIG subsequently expanded its investigation to include issues which might have constituted a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, False Statements, based on information **Constituted** on these forms. As such, the OIG also considered administrative and ethical violations tied to federal employees' obligation to truthfully report information on official documents.

# DETAILS

On July 10, 2010, the OIG received an email allegation stating that the told the source that was starting a job at NCUA because he had lost his job with a bank in North Carolina. If also said that was selling to house in NC, but that because of the market expected to sell it in a short sale at approximately \$100,000 below the amount owed on the mortgage. The source alleged that the mortgage company. At the time of the allegation, the home was still for sale. The OIG was able to confirm through public records that the house was for sale for approximately \$100,000 below the mortgage balance as alleged.

The OIG's review of GOE 450 and SF85P focused on previous employment. Specifically, the OIG's review of documents received via a subpoena and supplied by showed positions in held that were not reported on either form. On the OGE 450, Section III: Outside Positions requires that the filer report:

All positions outside the U.S. Government held at any time during the reporting period, whether or not you were compensated and whether or not you currently

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A short sale is the sale of a house in which the proceeds fall short of what the owner still owes on the mortgage. The mortgage lender can agree to accept the proceeds of the short sale and forgive the rest of the debt or they can require the home owner to pay some or all of the deficiency.

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hold that position. Positions include an officer, director, employee, trustee, general partner, proprietor, representative, executor, or consultant of any of the following: Corporation, partnership, trust or other business entity; non-profit or volunteer organization; or educational institution.

The SF85P requires that filers list all employment activities for the past 7 years. We also reviewed section 12 – Your employment Record which asks:

Has any of the following happened to you in the last 7 years? Fired from a job; quit a job after being told you'd be fired; left a job by mutual agreement following allegations of misconduct; left a job by mutual agreement following allegations of unsatisfactory performance; left a job for other reasons under unfavorable circumstances.

The OIG was interested in this section because answered no, yet we found articles and legal documents detailing the failure of the **Constant of the Constant**.

his employment at the under unfavorable circumstances.

The OIG interviewed the source, issued a subpoena, reviewed records received under the subpoena and records provided by and interviewed to twice for this investigation.

# FINDINGS

The OIG's review of the documents received from the subpoena and those supplied by method deposited over \$70,000 in the bank account over 16 months. The was able to supply records accounting for approximately \$60,000 of the questioned funds.<sup>2</sup> The deposits were not from accounts that had been hidden from the mortgage company; rather, they were from a variety of legitimate sources that included the liquidation of a life insurance policy, a pay check, tax refunds and a personal loan. The investigation found no evidence to support the bank fraud allegation. **The investigation** States Attorney (AUSA), Western District of North Carolina declined prosecution based on lack of evidence.

In reviewing and OGE 450, the OIG found that the failed to list an outside position that held briefly during the reporting period, but that held briefly during the reporting period, but that held briefly during the report of the report. In addition, the failed to list two jobs on the SF85P that the held prior to being

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The remaining \$8,754,73 was for deposits in 2009. The bank would not provide deposit records for activity beyond 2010.

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hired at NCUA. In an interview, where explained had forgotten to include the positions on the SF85P. If further stated did not even think of the one had during the reporting period covered by the OGE 450. If stated did not consider them significant since held each for only a few months. Thereiterated that had not intentionally left the positions off the forms to avoid NCUA knowing had the jobs. If stated has never worked for the government before and was surprised at the amount of paperwork required. If considered the forms to be a nuisance and had not realized the significance of the need for full disclosure.

Regarding the circumstances that led **second** to leave explained that had worked for a supervisor there for approximately 10 years who managed dictatorially and that had very little decision making power. And did not agree with many of the pricing decisions that were being made but was not able to change the policy. was under a two year contract that ended in November 2008. End department had been laying off staff prior to his departure and had asked to be laid off for approximately a year as a way to end contract early but the request was not granted. Therefore, resigned as soon as contract expired. The had been pursued by other organizations for mexpertise and the felt that would get another job quickly, however the banking industry suffered huge job losses at that time and two was not able to get a job immediately. That led to the need to sell house under a short sale and move to Northern Virginia for the job at NCUA. Stated that answered the auestion on the SF85P honestly and to the best of solity. The did not knowingly falsify any part of the form. AUSA, Eastern District of Virginia declined prosecution in this case.

Regarding the review of OGE Form 450 and SF 85P, although we found that did omit reportable information, the investigation did not develop evidence to conclude that did so knowingly and willfully, as required for a criminal false statements violation.<sup>3</sup>

In reviewing the circumstances surrounding **serves** violations and determining whether disciplinary action is warranted, due consideration should be given to the "<u>Douglas</u>" factors.<sup>4</sup> The "<u>Douglas</u>" factors are the pertinent mitigating and aggravating factors that must be considered by the responsible agency official(s) before proposing or deciding on a particular disciplinary measure or penalty.

<sup>3</sup> 18 USC 1001.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Douglas v. Veteran's Administration, 5 MSPR 280, 5 MSPB 313 (1981).



# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of the Inspector General Investigations Division

# INVESTIGATIVE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM TO:

File

FROM:

**Director of Investigations** 

SUBJECT:

DATE:

Unauthorized Access - Jacob

December 17, 2010

### BACKGROUND

On August 6, 2010, Control of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) informed Technical Support in the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) informed the Reporting Agent (RA) that a supervisor at the Asset Management and Assistance Center (AMAC) felt that an employee might have the password to access NCUA email account. The indicated that the information had come from the Assistance Center (AMAC) felt that the supervisor in question was the 13, 2010, Control told the RA that the supervisor in question was the AMAC and the employee was

# ACTIVITY

On August 19, 2010, the Reporting Agent (RA) initiated an investigation into the allegations. This inquiry encompassed interviews with relevant personnel, forensic analysis of the computer hard drive and records review.

The review found no corroborating evidence that **construction** had accessed **construction** email account.

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Form OI-16D 07/2008 Office of the Inspector General – investigations National Credit Union Administration (2)(6),(B)(2)(C)

Unauthorized Access December 17, 2010

# **STATUS**

This investigation is closed with no further action.

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	NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION Office of Inspector General Investigations Division						
	REPORT OF INVE	REPORT OF INVESTIGATION					
DATE OF REPORT:	May 16, 2011	r Je	Зõ				
CASE NUMBER:	10-l-R3-10	27 24			~		
CASE TITLE:	NS -				/		
VIOLATIONS:	N/A		23				

# **SYNOPSIS**

Based on a referral from **Constant** Vice President of Human Resources at Constant Credit Union **Constant**, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation into allegations of inappropriate comments and gestures made by NCUA Examiner CU-12 **Constant** toward managers at **Constant**.

The information developed in this investigation could neither conclusively substantiate nor disprove the allegations.

DISTRIBUTION: CASE AGENT: APPROVED: Herbert Yolles William A. DeSarno Regional Director, Region III Director of Investigations Inspector General Executive Director David Marquis **OHR** Director Lorraine Phillips (Signature)

(b) (b) ; (b) (7) (c)

## BACKGROUND

Examiner (SE) alleging essentially the following: On December 2, 2010, Supervisory spoke with a female manager about a meeting with one of her subordinate managers, also female. During the course of the conversation, asked which person would be meeting with concerning foreclosures. When told, turned to the manager and asked if she was "the girl with ..." and then made a gesture indicating large breasts. During the same conversation, also entered into a conversation about the Civil War and indicated that the family had owned slaves and that the felt the country should have stayed split.

During the same time frame, **and the had a conversation with another senior manager** about students funding college by serving in the military. **Solution** stated that they could join the military for college funds unless they were homosexuals or "queer." During the course of the investigation, the reporting agent (RA) discovered that **course** made the same gesture in reference to the foreclosures manager to this senior manager as well. (Attachment 1)

During subsequent conversations with **Conversations** indicated that the Vice President of Internal Audit had also had conversations with **Conversations** that **Conversations** indicated that the Vice President of Internal Audit had also had conversations with **Conversations** indicated that the Vice President of Internal Audit had also had conversations with **Conversations** indicated that **Conversations** 

The RA interviewed the three (3) **Sector** employees identified by **Sector**. We president Internal Audit; **Sector** Senior Vice President (VP) and **Sector** VP Consumer Lending. The RA interviewed **Sector** under oath in the OIG office. The RA also consulted **Sector** who was **Sector** SE during the **Sector** from the **Sector** examination. Finally, the RA interviewed Regional Supervisor **Sector** from the **Sector** Department of Commerce, Division of Financial Institutions who was the state's lead examiner.

### DETAILS

On February 10, 2011, the second of the second and the second was interviewed in February 10, 2011, the second of the second of

First, **Constant of Section** Federal Credit Union **Constant**. The told **Constant** that examiners had been dismissed and it was not going to happen to **Constant** related that **Constant** had gone into additional detail including talking about the examiners, but **Constant** did not remember specifics. **Constant** had been uncomfortable with the conversation. **Constant** felt that the entire conversation was "odd and unusual" and did not feel it was appropriate for the exam situation.

Second, when the asked to review the outside audit, the auditing company, **Carlo** requested that **C** agree to confidentiality restrictions. Basically, they were requesting that the audit product be treated as confidential information under the Freedom of Information Act or similar laws and regulations and that **C** are written notice before audit documentation (or copies thereof) be released to others. According to **C** and **C**

Third, **Charles** explained that **Charles** thas loan participations that were purchased from were all to **Charles** which **Charles** would carry a higher risk due to the fact that many of the **Charles** are dependent on the **Charles** and when they are removed for any reason, the **Charles** are at high risk of failure. **Charles** and when they are removed for any reason, the **Charles** are at high risk of failure. **Charles** and when they are organized and thought that the concern was valid. However, **Charles** went on to discuss a **Charles** in **Charles** had relationships with young boys and said, "You know all felt it was highly inappropriate.

The RA asked **watch** if **a** had any further information that **b** felt was important to the investigation. **b** added that **b** had brought **c** a very long list of documents that **b** wanted made available to **b** with hundreds highlighted. **b** had no objections to supplying them **b** felt it was much more than could be reviewed during the examination. **b** indicated that **b** did want all of the documents which **b** felt was related to the fact that **b** was being extremely thorough due to **b** concerns with the failure of **b** was frustrated with the time wasted by **b** staff getting these documents ready when **b** came back later to say that, in fact, **b** did not need all of the highlighted documents.

examiners, talking about one in particular who was from Kentucky and insinuating that was a "hick." As it turns out, **The same** worked in the same town, **Sector**, as

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(6); (b)(7)(c)

the examiner in question and was familiar with the examiner.

Upon questioning, **Control** reported he found **Control** examination to be thorough, appropriate and fair; however, **Control** found many of **Control** personal interactions with **Control** be very unprofessional.

On February 10, 2011, the RA interviewed Senior VP **Construction** shared two examples of unprofessional behavior by **Construction** during their last examination. In the first instance, the two **Construction** were alone in the lunch room near **Construction** soffice. The had been looking at student loans during the examination and **Construction** of the commented that **Construction** did not understand how anyone could not afford college unless they were queer because otherwise they could join the military like **Construction** nephew to pay for college. **Construction** felt that the tone of the comment was derogatory toward homosexuals.

The second inappropriate encounter happened when when when asked where about foreclosure and delinquencies. Where told where told where that the the second the person to ask for those questions. In response, where used the hands to make a gesture indicating a woman with large breasts and asked if that was for the conversation because it made the uncomfortable.

The RA asked **Sector** about the examination process. **The** related that there were some problems with business loans in **Sector** (another NCUA examiner) report but they went over each of them and were able to settle all of the issues. **Sector** indicated that overall **Sector** felt **Sector** asked for reasonable things and that the exam had been hard but fair.

On February 10, 2011 the RA interviewed **Construction**, VP Consumer Lending for **Construction** indicated **Construction** had worked in the credit union industry for nearly 30 years.

had quite a bit of contact with **Canadian** during this exam because **Canadian** office was near the conference room the examiners were using. They used **Canadian** office to store documents because **Canadian** door locked but the door to the conference did not. **Canadian** told **Canadian** he needed to speak to the collections manager to ask about foreclosures. **Canadian** told him to talk to **Canadian Canadian** reported that **Canadian** made a gesture to indicate a woman with large breasts. **Canadian** said after giving **Canadian** a questioning look **Canadian**, "It's OK my daughter is large" too. **Canadian** was uncomfortable having **Canadian** meet one on one with **Canadian** so **Canadian** asked the assistant manager to sit in on the

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meeting between set and set and

was unaware of the gesture made by

office talking about family. If stated that talked about slavery and shared with that family had owned slaves. If went on to say that fielt the North and South should have stayed split. If found the conversation to be very odd and was most uncomfortable because an African-American woman works in a cubicle just outside field office and field the woman had not overheard and been hurt or offended.

before and that the found to be less professional than the was accustomed to during examinations. In addition, the found him to be "chatty" which took attention from work. Prior to this examination to be told that the was relieved to be told that the was relieved to be told that the whole found to be very professional, would be the lead examiner for the next year's examination.

RA, were RA,

Prior to the start of the interview, **Walk** informed us that since **S** surgery he cannot regulate **S** body temperature, as if **S** has menopause, therefore **S** might need to stop and put on or take off **S** sweater. The reporting RA assured **S** that accommodations would be made. **S** later asked **S** about the appropriateness of the comment, considering all of the other participants in the interview were women. **S** stated **S** wife thought it was funny, so **S** did not think it would be offensive. **S** stated **S** pointed out that this was a business setting. **S** again stated he just thought it was a funny comment.

he had been the lead examiner on the most recent **Constant** examination. The RA explained that the OIG received a complaint from **Constant** about his conduct while at the credit union during the examination. The RA further explained that the complaint included reports from three managers at **Constant**.

The RA told that the reported he inappropriately discussed the examination of the stated that the CEO, the could not recall having discussed the with the could not recall having discussed the stated that the centre with th

employment records confirmed that he was hired by NCUA on November 9, 1986.

(b) (b); (b) (d) (c)

The RA then asked **Constant** to explain a dispute with **Constant** regarding the outside audit and if he had threatened to sue **Constant**. **Constant** stated that he had not threatened to sue **Constant**. He said that **Constant** had presented him with a letter requiring his agreement to keep their outside audit confidential. He was concerned about agreeing to this stipulation and faxed the agreement to **Constant** an NCUA Analyst in the Division of Supervision in Region 3.<sup>2</sup> He stated that he eventually received permission to agree to the requirements, but that it was too late in the examination so he was not able to review the outside audit at that time.<sup>3</sup>

The RA asked about loan participations purchased by **Sections** from **Section**. Specifically, **Section** expressed concern that these loans were a high risk due to the fact that many of the loans were made to **Section** and that some of the **Section** would change substantially if the **Section** were removed for any reason thereby impairing the **Section** ability to repay the loans. **Section** indicated that he remembered discussing this issue and that he considered it to be a valid concern. He was then asked if he remembered discussing a **Section** in Georgia where the **Section** had relationships with **Section** and if he said, "You know all **Section** and **Section** like **Section**."

The RA then asked about the large request for documents made to **Constant** during the examination. **Constant** explained that he used a program written by another examiner to perform a "data scrub" on the AIRES download. He said he never asked for documents to support the larger list. **Constant** denied having changed the request as **Constant** reported. Rather, he stated he had highlighted the list from the beginning to identify the loans he wanted supporting documents for.

The RA told **Constant of the temperted he temperted had given assessments of his fellow** examiners, talking about one in particular who was from Kentucky and insinuating that he was a "hick" and had separately indicated the needed to "go babysit my staff." **Second** stated that the examiner from Kentucky was a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) that he put in charge of the call reports. He indicated that he felt the examiner was extremely competent. He went on to say he could not imagine having those conversations and that "maybe **Tempert** judgment was clouded by his son's **Centre**"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The RA presented **with an undated fax found in the AIRES files for the the sector of examination**. The fax was directed to DOS mail, attention **with a file for the notation**, "Please read the last sentence in the memo. Do I have NCUA's permission to review the workpapers [sic]? Thank You, **The sentence**." The memo was also included in the fax.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The confidential section of the AIRES report included a detailed account of the issues with the audit review.

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(b)(b); (b)(7)/c)

When told that and that the conversations were not relevant but instead disruptive to the door just to talk and that the conversations were not relevant but instead disruptive to the productivity; where responded he did not think he had been in the difference of the did indicate that they had talked about motorcycles because the is interested in Harley-Davidson motorcycles. The did that he would engage in conversation with credit union managers as needed to make them comfortable and establish rapport.

The RA related a conversation as reported by **Section** where the two men were alone in the lunch room near **Section** office. **Section** had been looking at student loans which were part of **Section** responsibility and he **Section** commented that he did not understand how anyone could not afford college unless they were queer because otherwise they could join the military like his nephew to pay for college. **Section** stated he did not recall having that conversation. **Section** said he does not believe that conversation ever took place as he would not discuss business in public places (like the lunchroom) because others could overhear. He confirmed that multiple members of his family have served in the military, including his nephew, who he believed had used military benefits to pay for college.

The RA explained that the had reported that the had frequent contact with the because the examiners used the office to store documents because the door locked but the door to the conference did not. The confirmed this and stated that they also used the door to the conference did not. The RA related the stated that they also used the door way of the office to store documents because the claim that while standing in the doorway of the office that he said the North and South should have stayed split. The labeled the claim as "bizarre" as he has bi-racial grandkids. He said that he did not remember having that conversation regarding slavery. However, when pressed he stated that he could have talked about his family owning slaves because, being southern, he would talk about his family if asked and his family had owned slaves. He stated that does not make intellectual sense to have suggested that the North and South should have stayed split. He reiterated that he did not recall the conversation.

The RA explained to that the last issue had been reported separately by both and the second to speak to the collections manager and when they identified her as to be he made a gesture that indicated a woman with large breasts as a way to identify that he was thinking of the right person. The further said after giving him a questioning look he stated, "It's OK my daughter is large" too. The stated that is super obese but that he had not made any hand gesture. He also did not recall any conversation about his daughter being well endowed. He explained that he often carried a pad of paper to take notes and a pen in his pocket and maybe someone could have mistaken his removal of the pen as a gesture.

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The RA questioned why two managers would independently report having the same interaction with him. The then requested to meet alone with the same and the same and the same being the same being the same set of the same set

When the interview continued, the RA repeated the question regarding why two managers would report the same experience, separately demonstrating the same gesture. He stated that maybe the credit union did not want him there as he has a reputation as a bulldog and for being thorough. He went on to say that **Constant** officials try to control the regulators and that the state is softer on them. **Constant** routinely asked to have items excluded from the exam. The only other time a credit union had requested he exclude items, it was having major problems. He explained that the examination was five weeks long and he felt that he might have been close to finding fraud.

then asked for another break to speak privately with the union representatives.

Upon resuming the interview, and added that he had heard "chatter" from other credit unions that CEO was not trustworthy. He talked about the being in a band and using "product." The RA asked if he meant drugs and he confirmed he did. He went on to say that others in the industry reported would try to get the "tentacles" into you and lacked a conscience.

He closed by saying that he felt something major was going on because **sector** controls everything. He also felt that **sector**, the internal auditor, was not following proper reporting procedures. **Sector** said that he had discussed his concerns with his then-SA **sector** and in the confidential section of the AIRES report.<sup>4</sup>

the **Examination**. The felt **Could give information relevant** to the investigation.

On April 6, 2011, the RA interviewed Supervisory Examiner (SE) **Sector** (SE) provided documentation of issues **Constant** had during the examination. In an email, dated October 29, 2010, discussing the audit issue with **Constant** (SE) expressed concern that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The confidential section had a heading titled Internal Auditor with the following comments: "The SSA allows the internal auditor to directly report to the board of directors. He has lots of conversations with management about conversations and finding. It didn't look like he reports to the supervisory committee and then the board. Our review of his work didn't disclose any problems; however, due to the lack of time, we didn't explore his relationship with operating management closely. What we decided to do was review his reporting relationships at the next contact for independence. We expect to be back on-site in about 3.5 months, we will have more time to focus on this area."

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is "trying to do a [sic] end around to get what they want. They told me they have the option of dealing with the state instead of us. And because they get what they want from the state very easily they don't want to deal with us." was also concerned that a saw aggressive regulation as a risk. On January 18, 2011, he forwarded an excerpt from board minutes to **second** that stated. "Management has also identified aggressive regulatory oversight as a new risk to be managed. Aggressive regulatory oversight is being seen in two areas: pressure from NCUA to make only loans of the highest credit quality; and pressure to aggressively categorize modified loans as "troubled debt," which has the affect of driving up loan delinguency rates." However, categorically denied that **and the set of th** discovering fraud. **Example** told the RA that **Example** had a "pretty good nose for that kind of thing," referring to fraud detection in credit unions. would not have let him leave the credit union had he expressed that concern to . In his December 2010 update to he indicated, "We did a thorough scrub of the Aires download for on fraudulent activity, and none was discovered."

On April 8, 2011, the RA interviewed Regional Supervisor **Research and Supervisor** from the **Carter State State State** from the **Carter State State State State from the <b>Carter State** from the **Cart** 

frequently, having collaborated on seven exams in 2010 alone. Stated that he worked together on the stated that he worked in 2010. As said that no one told that he worked in appropriate behavior by the during the examination and that had not witnessed any inappropriate conduct. If further stated that never heard or seen act inappropriately.

#### -FINDINGS

In reviewing this allegation, all of the statements were analyzed for credibility and consistency. While none of the individual comments or actions allegedly made during the exam of **Constant of had independent witnesses**, **Constant of the conversations in question**. In addition, two managers separately reported a nearly identical interaction with **Constant**.

The information developed in this investigation could neither conclusively substantiate nor disprove the allegations. Nevertheless, between the credibility of the statements made by credit union officials and the partial confirmation of some of those statements, the investigation reasonably raised the specter that **Conduct** at the credit union was questionable, if not outright inappropriate and unprofessional. As a CU-12 Examiner, the conduct towards and interactions with credit union officials should be above reproach.

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# (b)(b); (b)(y)(c)

In reviewing the circumstances surrounding **Constant** actions and determining whether disciplinary action is warranted, due consideration should be given to the "Douglas" factors.<sup>5</sup> The "Douglas" factors are the pertinent mitigating and aggravating factors that must be considered by the responsible agency official(s) before proposing or deciding on a particular disciplinary measure or penalty.

<sup>5</sup> See Douglas v. Veteran's Administration, 5 MSPR 280, 5 MSPB 313 (1981).