



Federal Election Commission
Office *of the* Inspector General

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY I19INV00007

DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2021

Allegations of Nepotism Against Senior FEC Employee

The Office of Special Counsel (OSC) completed an investigation based on a referral from the Federal Election Commission (FEC) Office of Inspector General (OIG). On January 31, 2019, the FEC OIG received an anonymous hotline complaint that alleged prohibited personnel practices (i.e., nepotism) on the part of a senior FEC employee. Specifically, the complaint alleged that the employee improperly influenced a hiring process to the advantage of a family member, which is prohibited by 5 U.S.C. § 2302(b).

The OIG referred the complaint to OSC in May 2020 due to the lack of internal investigative personnel resources. OSC completed its investigation and determined that the allegation was not substantiated based on the preponderance of the evidence, which included review of relevant personnel records and testimony by agency employees. Among other things, OSC found essentially no evidence that the employee in question was a relative as provided in 5 U.S.C. § 2302(b). As such, the OIG has closed the matter.