DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE WASHINGTON, DC



February 22, 2010

SAF/GCA 1740 Air Force Pentagon Washington, DC 20330-1740

Catherine A. McMullen
Chief, Disclosure Unit
United States Office of Special Counsel
1730 M. Street, N.W., Suite 218
Washington, DC 20036-1505
VIA EMAIL: cmcmullen@osc.gov

Re: OSC File No. DI-08-1283

Dear Ms. McMullen:

Please find attached an addendum to the Report of Investigation (ROI) submitted by the Secretary of the Air Force on January 4, 2010, to the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) in the above-referenced matter. The ROI was submitted in response to the Special Counsel's February 23, 2009 correspondence, referring for investigation a whistleblower disclosure from Mrs. Stephanie M. Armel, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Assistant at Sheppard Air Force Base (AFB) Texas. As reflected in the ROI, the Air Force investigated Mrs. Armel's allegations that Ms. Barbara King, then Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, "failed to protect private information, improperly emailed personal information without permission, and violated time and attendance rules."

The investigation concluded that Ms. King failed to protect private information in violation of Air Force policies and the Privacy Act, failed to keep adequate records of her compensatory time and violated time and attendance rules. Ms. King received a verbal counseling for improperly emailing personal information and was retrained on proper procedures necessary to protect Privacy Act information. The ROI indicated that the matter "will be submitted to her current supervisor for appropriate action on the other substantiated violations."

On January 7, 2010, the matter was referred to Director of the 61st Force Support Squadron, Los Angeles AFB California, for appropriate command action on the other substantiated violations. On February 18, 2010, Ms. King was issued a notice of proposed 7 day suspension for 1) failing to properly secure Privacy Act information files and 2) improperly accounting of her work hours on official time cards. The attached ROI addendum reflects the corrective action taken against Ms. King for the "other substantiated allegations (allegations 1 and 3 of the ROI)."

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Deborah Gunn at 703-695-4435 or by email at <u>Deborah.gunn@pentagon.af.mil</u> or you may contact Major Tom Uiselt at 703-695-0491 or by email at <u>Thomas.uiselt@pentagon.af.mil</u>.

Sincerely,

Cheri L. Cannon

Deputy General Counsel

(Fiscal, Ethics and Administrative Law)

ADDENDUM TO REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OSC File No. DI-08-1283

CORRECTIVE ACTION

The investigation concluded that Ms. King failed to protect private information in violation of Air Force policies and the Privacy Act, failed to keep adequate records of her compensatory time and violated time and attendance rules. Ms. King received a verbal counseling for improperly emailing personal information and was retrained on proper procedures necessary to protect Privacy Act information (allegation no. 2). The January 4, 2010 ROI indicated that the matter "will be submitted to her current supervisor for appropriate action on the other substantiated violations."

On January 7, 2010, the matter was referred to Ms. King's squadron commander, the Director of the 61st Force Support Squadron, Los Angeles AFB California, for appropriate command action on the other substantiated violations (allegations 1 and 3 of the ROI). On February 18, 2010, Ms. King was issued a notice of proposed 7 day suspension for 1) failing to properly secure Privacy Act information files and 2) improperly accounting of her work hours on official time cards.