

September 19, 2018

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Inspector General
ATTN: HOTLINE
PO Box 23489
Washington, DC 20026

Re: Complaint Addressing Leaks and Ethics Lapses at Health and Human Services

Inspector General Levinson,

We write to your office today to inform you of Project Veritas's findings in an investigation into the Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS"). Project Veritas is a national journalism organization dedicated to undercover reporting to expose corruption, fraud, waste, and abuse. In its most recent undercover project, it spoke with employees of HHS to sort out whether staffers behaved ethically and carried out the agency's mission. We learned that within HHS, at least one employee is leaking confidential government information to third-party, outside groups.

Jessica Schubel, former Chief of Staff, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, revealed that at least one HHS employee shares confidential information with her. Our investigation revealed that Schubel enjoyed an unethical and possibly illegal advantage learning about confidential policy changes well before the public. This allowed her to prepare statements or analyses in advance of public release.

Disclosing confidential or proprietary government information, or soliciting its disclosure, is a serious offense. By inducing others to share confidential government information, Schubel jeopardizes the very ability of HHS to function properly. We ask that you review the linked exposé for further confirmation. <https://www.projectveritas.com/video/deep-state-unmasked-doj-official-resists-from-inside-cant-get-fired-leaks-at-hhs/>

The mission of the Office of Inspector General is to eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse. While it proves difficult for government agencies to police themselves, the outside press is a potent ally. In this report, we uncovered a veritable sieve in HHS that requires official investigation. In summary, Project Veritas has collected initial evidence suggesting at least the following laws and regulations were violated:

- Conveying or disposing of government records without authority to another, or knowingly receiving such information. 18 USC § 641.
- Using government property during work hours to advance personal or political causes. 5 CFR 2635.702-704; 5 CFR 2635.101(b).
- Violations of the Hatch Act—engaging in partisan political activity during work hours. 5 USC § 7323; 5 CFR 733 & 734, *et seq.*
- Engaging in outside activities that conflict with federal duties. 5 CFR 2635.802.

Project Veritas makes itself available to assist the Office of Inspector General in reviewing this matter. Please contact the undersigned for additional details.

Respectfully,

/s/ Benjamin Barr
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