



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

March 26, 2015

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This responds to your letter to Acting Deputy Attorney General Sally Quillian Yates, dated March 19, 2015, regarding allegations of inappropriate hiring practices at the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS). We appreciate the opportunity to address your concerns.

Upon receipt of your letter, the Director of the USMS (the Director) instructed the Associate Director for Administration to work with the USMS Office of General Counsel to review the allegations in your letter. We appreciate the opportunity to clarify the circumstances surrounding Mr. Lenzie's hiring. Mr. Lenzie applied in September 2011 for a Senior Forfeiture Financial Specialist (SFFS) position with Forfeiture Support Associates (FSA), a contractor that supports the Department. He was not hired for that position, however, because he did not possess the requisite qualifications. A four-member interview panel consisting of personnel from the USMS, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Boston, and FSA unanimously recommended another individual for the SFFS position, and that individual accepted the position.

Mr. Lenzie was highly qualified for a different position, however, and the same four-member panel unanimously recommended him for a Forfeiture Financial Specialist (FFS) position. Following the interview process, FSA offered Mr. Lenzie the FFS position, which he accepted. USMS did not waive any contract qualification requirements in making this hiring decision and proceeded in the usual course in hiring Mr. Lenzie.

Mr. Lenzie's hiring was not unduly influenced by the Director. After Mr. Lenzie applied for the SFFS position in September 2011, he emailed his resume to the Director, which she forwarded to Ms. Beal for her awareness. The Director did not recommend Mr. Lenzie for any position, nor did she instruct Ms. Beal, or anyone else at the USMS or within the Department, to take any action, officially or otherwise, on behalf of Mr. Lenzie. Mr. Lenzie was an experienced federal employee with ample qualifications. Furthermore, these noted events had no bearing on the unanimous recommendation by a three-member senior executive interview panel for Ms. Beal's selection as Assistant Director of the Asset Forfeiture Division in August 2014, nearly three years later.

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As to the materials requested in your letter, we have enclosed the labor category qualification requirements used to hire SFFS and FFS contractors from 2010 to the present. We have also enclosed the resumes of all individuals who have filled the SFFS and FFS contractor positions for FSA from 2010 to the present. In order to protect their privacy, we have redacted the names, phone numbers, email addresses, and home addresses of these employees.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Kadzik  
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz  
Inspector General  
Department of Justice  
Office of the Inspector General