Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training Professional Integrity and Quality Assurance



Case Summary Report 1100-18-008-CI

Prepared by

Special Agent in Charge

June 8, 2018

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MEMORANDUM File: 1100-18-008-CI

SUBJECT:	Allegations of	Policy Violations by SAC Former PSD SAC
FROM:	, Special Agent in C Professional Integrity and Quality Office of Criminal Enforcement, I	Assurance
то:	, Director Office of Criminal Enforcement, I	Forensics and Training
SYNOPSIS		
Services Deta	OECA and OCEFT). It is noted that were both incorrect. It is presu	, alleging misconduct by Protective oit 1). The email was also addressed to , and (Identified as Senior
The email gen	nerally provides five allegations: 1)	
done at EPA conducted by the Administr	expense without following proper payan individual with close personal ti ; 4) use of light rator during non-emergency situation	fice for unauthorized electronic devices was rocurement regulations and the sweep was less to Former PSD SAC 3) and sirens has been routine when transporting ons; and, 5) Former PSD SAC misrepresented justify the use of higher-cost premium class

INTRODUCTION

On February 20, 2018, PIQA SAC	spoke with OCEFT Deputy Director
regarding the allegations.	
administrative investigation into the	e allegations against Former PSD SAC while coordinating efforts
with the EPA-OIG.	
On February 21, 2018, SAC	received an email from EPA-OIG Assistant IG for
Investigations . The	e email referred all of the allegations against Former PSD SAC
back to OCEFT for investigation, w	rith the exception of the allegation alleging Former PSD SAC
	lation to a sweep of the Administrator's office for listening
devices.	

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION

The objective of this investigation was to: determine if Former PSD SAC
; authorized and/or used lights and siren in violation of OCEFT Directives
; or misrepresented threats to the Administrator to justify
using premium travel.

To accomplish this objective, PIQA interviewed the following individuals while audio-recording each session:

Name ¹	Title	Interview Date
	PSD Special Agent	2/27/2018
	PSD Special Agent	2/27/2018
	Former EPA Deputy Chief of Staff	2/27/2018
	PSD Special Agent	2/28/2018
	PSD Special Agent	3/1/2018
	PSD Special Agent	3/1/2018
	PSD Special Agent	3/1/2018
	CID-Operations	3/13/2018
	PSD Special Agent	3/16/2018
	PSD Special Agent	4/4/2018
	EPA Deputy Chief of Staff (Acting)	4/11/2018

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¹ This report summarizes pertinent information relating to the allegations alone, and is not intended to provide a transcript of each interview. Several interviewees did not have any relevant information regarding the allegations due to their limited time on staff with PSD.

ALLEGATIONS WITH RELEVANT FINDINGS BY PIQA:



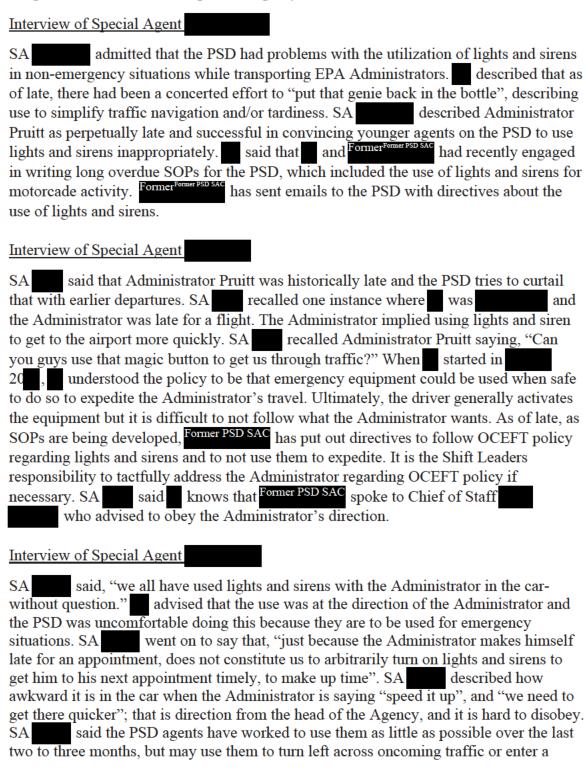


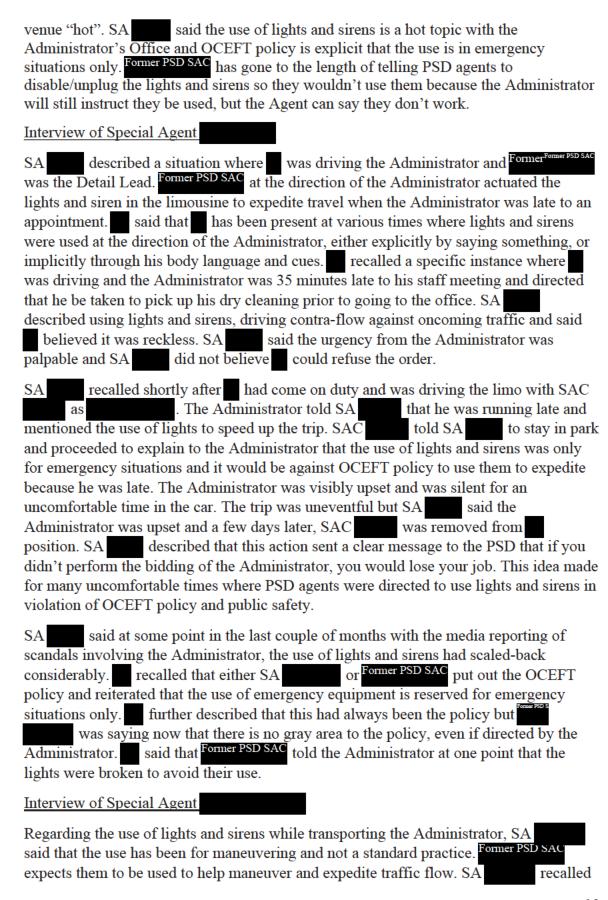






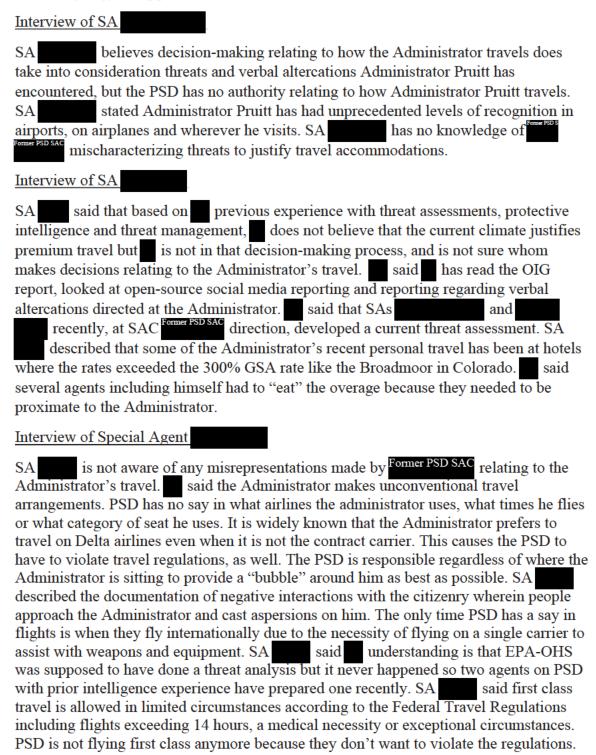
Allegation Two (Lights and Sirens): PSD agents routinely used of lights and siren while transporting the Administrator during on-emergency situations

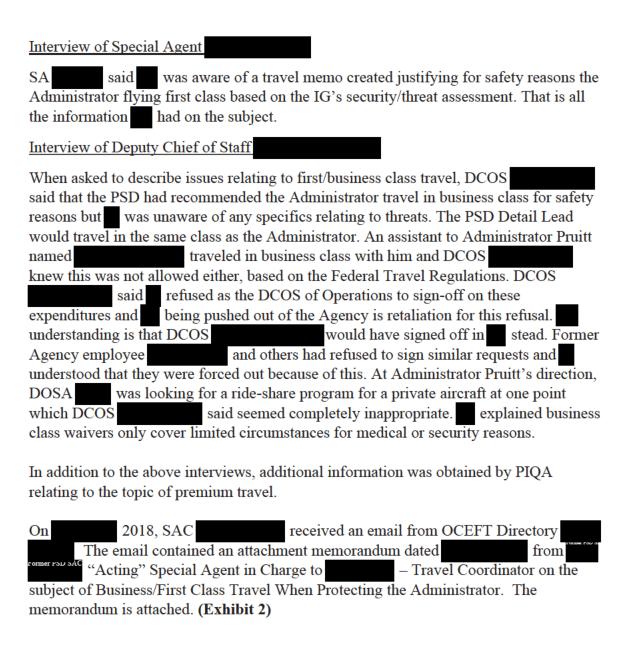




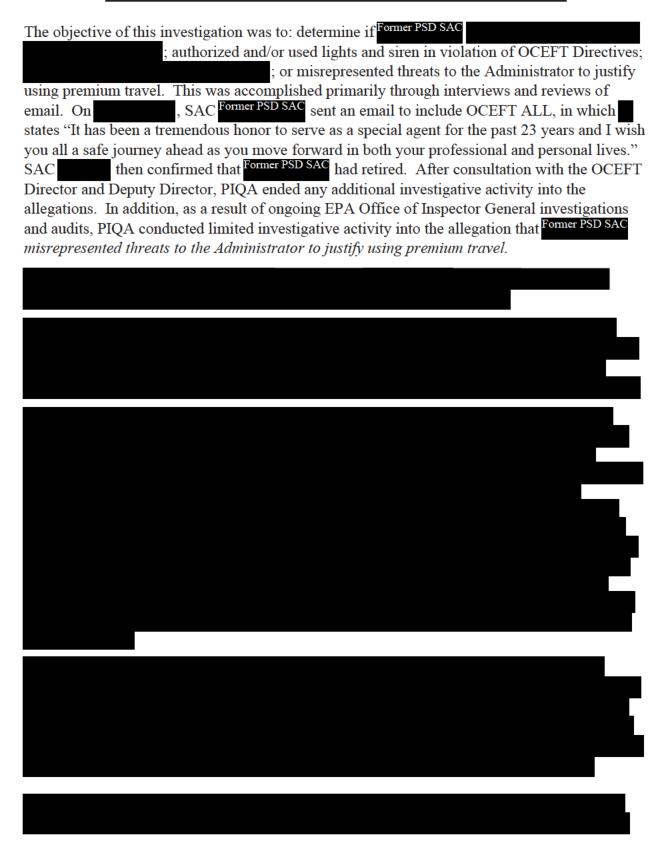
saying we're going to use them as needed and in an emergency. had one experience where activated the lights and sirens while was driving and has heard the same from other PSD agents. recalled the Administrator saying things like, "hit them" or "get us there" which translates to using lights and sirens.
Interview of Deputy Chief of Staff
When asked about motorcades executed by the PSD for Administrator Pruitt, DCOS recalled a fall 2017 trip to Colorado where described that had never seen the excessive use of lights and sirens as so seen with EPA's PSD. has a video of this activity from the Colorado trip. Former PSD SAC was present and directing this activity, to knowledge. DCOS described ongoing high speeds and erratic driving, regardless of in DC or outside of the Capitol. DCOS recalled a DOI event with POTUS wherein extreme speed and lights and sirens were utilized while former PSD SAC was in the car with the Administrator. said the most recent occurrence was local while returning from the White House to EPA which is approximately four blocks. described the use of lights and sirens as "overly obnoxious, excessive, and more dangerous to everyone". In opinion, none of the circumstances witnessed of the use of lights and sirens was an emergency. It talked to former PSD SAC about these issues and was told it was none of business. understood that was removed from position because would not permit the limo driver to use lights and sirens.
Consistent Comments from Other Interviewees
Lights and sirens have been used at the direction of the Administrator as the agents do not feel comfortable disobeying the agency head. Their use has not been during emergency situations but to ease travel like turning across oncoming traffic, using excessive speed to expedite a trip or to make a path through other motorists. Within the last few months due to increased media scrutiny, Former PSD SAC has directed the PSD to OCEFT's policy on the use of emergency equipment.
In addition to interviews, an email was provided to SAC from OCEFT Director The email forwarded included an email from the subject line: Lights and Siren. The email stated "Btw-Administrator encourages the use" The email was addressed to the subject line: Lights and Siren. The email stated "Btw-Administrator encourages the use" The email was addressed to special Agents working in some capacity on the Administrator's Protective Service Detail, at that time.

Allegation Four (Premium Travel Issues): Former PSD SAC misrepresented threats to the Administrator to justify using premium travel





SUMMARY OF FINDINGS WITH SUPPORTING INTERVIEWS





Summary of Allegation Two (Lights and Sirens): <u>PSD agents routinely used lights and siren</u> while transporting the Administrator during non-emergency situations

comfortable disobeying the agency head. Their use has not been during emergency situations but to ease travel like turning across oncoming traffic, using excessive speed to expedite a trip or to make a path through other motorists. After increased media scrutiny, Former PSD SAC directed the PSD to OCEFT's policy on the use of emergency equipment. There are specific situations that should be highlighted: recalled a specific instance where was driving and the Administrator was 35 minutes late to his staff meeting and directed that he be taken to pick up his dry cleaning prior to going to the office. SA described using lights and sirens, driving contra-flow against oncoming traffic and said believed it was reckless. SA did not believe could refuse the order. Administrator was palpable and SA also recalled shortly after had come on duty and was driving the limo with SAC . The Administrator told SA that he was running late and mentioned the use of lights to speed up the trip. SAC told SA to stay in park and proceeded to explain to the Administrator that the use of lights and sirens was only for emergency situations and it would be against OCEFT policy to use them to expedite because he was late. The Administrator was visibly upset and was silent for an uncomfortable time in the car. The trip was uneventful but SA said the Administrator was upset and a few days later. SAC was removed from position. SA described that this action sent a clear message to the PSD that if you didn't perform the bidding of the Administrator, you would lose your job. This idea made for many uncomfortable times where PSD agents were directed to use lights and sirens in violation of OCEFT policy and public safety. stated that Former PSD SAC has The issue with using lights and siren rose to the level that SA gone to the length of telling PSD agents to disable/unplug the lights and sirens so they wouldn't use them because the Administrator will still instruct they be used, but the Agent can say they don't work. Summary of Allegation Four (Premium Travel Issues): Former PSD SAC *misrepresented threats* to the Administrator to justify using premium travel Most of the agents interviewed were not familiar with the history of decision making relating to the Administrator's travel accommodations (air/hotel). SA stated that PSD has no say in what airlines the administrator uses, what times he flies or what category of seat he uses. described that some of the Administrator's recent personal travel has been at hotels where the rates exceeded the 300% GSA rate like the Broadmoor in Colorado. said several agents including himself had to "eat" the overage because they needed to be proximate to the Administrator.

Lights and sirens have been used at the direction of the Administrator as the agents do not feel

As previously stated, as a result of ongoing EPA Office of Inspector General investigations and audits, PIQA conducted limited investigative activity into the allegation that misrepresented threats to the Administrator to justify using premium travel.

List of Exhibits

Exhibit 1 - February 20, 2018, Anonymous Complaint against Former PSD SAC



Exhibit 2- May 1, 2017, Travel/First Class Memorandum from Former PSD SAC

