

Labor Department statement:

“At this time, the Department does not have any comment on prior actions of former DOL employees.

Relevant offices within the Department, including the Office of the Solicitor, Departmental Budget Center, Office of Apprenticeship, and Employment and Training Administration, conducted a review of the work performed under three contracts to date. As a result, deliverables created under those contracts that supported industry-recognized apprenticeship programs (IRAPs) were identified in the amount of \$1.1 million. Shortly thereafter, the aforementioned offices took necessary steps to ensure IRAP deliverables were funded properly.

The Department has taken extensive corrective actions to date, including requesting the assistance of the Department’s Chief Procurement Officer to review and, if needed, enhance policies and procedures relating to contract administration; modifying the contracts with the three vendors to ensure that any future IRAP deliverables are charged against the correct appropriation; and issuing renewed guidance to the Office of Apprenticeship on appropriate contractor communications. The Department is in the process of answering specific questions from the relevant Congressional committees on total expenditures under the three contracts, and is therefore unable to comment on this issue at this time.

The Department declines to comment on active Office of Inspector General (OIG) investigations. The Department is aware of a referral from Congress, but cannot speak to whether or not the OIG has taken any action on said referral. As always, the Department will cooperate to the fullest extent possible with any and all OIG investigations.”