

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted an inquiry into the facts surrounding the Administrative Judge of the New Orleans Municipal Court's retention of the wife of the Orleans Parish Sheriff as a consultant, and the Orleans Parish Sheriff's hiring the wife of the Administrative Judge as a consultant shortly before.

The inquiry found no evidence of criminal behavior. The actions taken by the Sheriff and Administrative Judge were within their respective legal authority. However, their actions created an appearance of impropriety, diminished confidence in the integrity of the criminal justice system and government in general, and deprived the public of the benefits of competition in public procurements.