

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Memorandum of Interview

OIG Case No: 07-63

On February 22, 2008, (b)(7)c formerly with the Office of Commissioner MERRIFIELD (OCM), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), was interviewed by Special Agent (SA) (b)(7)c and (b)(7)c Office of the Inspector General (OIG), NRC, regarding MERRIFIELD's completion of a Public Financial Disclosure Report. (b)(7)c provided essentially the following information:

(b)(7)c stated that she was in OCM throughout MERRIFIELD's entire tenure. (b)(7)c indicated that (b)(7)c OCM was responsible for maintaining MERRIFIELD's schedule and handling budget issues. (b)(7)c (b)(7)c indicated she was responsible for "everything else," which included typing and editing documents for MERRIFIELD. (b)(7)c stated that (b)(7)c primarily answered the phone line for MERRIFIELD; (b)(7)c answered the phone lines for the rest of the office. However, when (b)(7)c wasn't present (b)(7)c would also answer MERRIFIELD's phone line. MERRIFIELD did frequently receive calls from industry executives. If it was someone that (b)(7)c recognized, she would ask MERRIFIELD if he was available to receive the call. She was not informed of the topics discussed during the calls.

(b)(7)c could not recall exactly when she learned that MERRIFIELD would be leaving the government, but that it was at approximately the time when he decided not to seek a third term. During an office staff meeting, MERRIFIELD announced that he would be looking for employment and that it would be most likely in the private sector. However, he did not appear to have anything specific in mind. MERRIFIELD told the staff that he had arranged to work through a lawyer on his arrangement process. (b)(7)c recalled that the lawyer's last name was ENGLEMEYER. The staff was instructed that if any offers or other calls about potential employment were received, they were to forward the information to this attorney. (b)(7)c stated that she never received any such calls, although ENGELMEYER did call on occasion. In each instance, she forwarded ENGELMEYER to John THOMA, Executive Assistant, OCM, NRC. (b)(7)c did not know what was discussed by ENGELMEYER and THOMA during any of the conversations.

(b)(7)c was not aware of MERRIFIELD's job search progress. She stated that she learned MERRIFIELD would be going to The Shaw Group during the last couple of weeks of his term, and that it was a complete surprise to her. (b)(7)c thought she may have learned this from (b)(7)c but she was unsure.

(b)(7)c indicated that MERRIFIELD did not share with her any details of his job search, and that they did not have the kind of relationship where she would have expected him to have shared such information. She believed that only THOMA or Spiros DROGGITIS, OCM, NRC, would have been individuals that MERRIFIELD might have shared such information with.

(b)(7)c did recall typing a resume for MERRIFIELD. (b)(7)c involvement was just to type the handwritten draft provided to her by MERRIFIELD. She provided the type resume to MERRIFIELD, but she never sent it to anyone, nor did she ever see MERRIFIELD send it out.

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(b)(7)c could not recall MERRIFIELD ever recusing himself from any issues during the final months of his term. (b)(7)c was never told by other OCM staff not to provide MERRIFIELD information on certain issues due to his employment search.

(b)(7)c recalled assisting MERRIFIELD in the preparation of his Public Financial Disclosure Reports throughout his tenure with the NRC. MERRIFIELD filled out the form by hand the first year, and (b)(7)c typed in his responses. In the subsequent years, she would provide him a copy of the previous year's form and MERRIFIELD would annotate any changes or updates which she would then include when she completed/typed the form.

(b)(7)c provided no advice or recommendations on completing the form to MERRIFIELD. MERRIFIELD would review the form closely prior to signing it and that he had pointed out errors or items requiring changes prior to submission. (b)(7)c noted that in general, MERRIFIELD was not the type of individual who signed items without closely reading them over first.

(b)(7)c could not specifically recall the completion of the final report, but believed she had probably typed it for MERRIFIELD because she had done so for the previous reports. She indicated that in the past, she had placed the report into an "addressee eyes only" envelope and delivered the package to office belonging to John SZABO, Senior Attorney, Office of General Counsel, NRC, but she could not recall doing so during 2007. (b)(7)c believed that SZABO would have been the only person MERRIFIELD would have consulted regarding questions about completing this form and noted that SZABO had come to their office a couple of times during 2007. (b)(7)c did not know what was discussed during these meetings or if the report was one of the topics.

Interviewed by (Special Agent  
MOI Prepared on February 21  
MOI Reviewed by/on: \_\_\_\_\_

(b)(7)c