## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Office of the Inspector General

**Inspector General** 



November 22, 2021

The Honorable Muriel E. Bowser Mayor District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mayor's Correspondence Unit, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 316 Washington, D.C. 20004

Re: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT, Control Number 2017-0537

Dear Mayor Bowser:

An investigation conducted by the OIG and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) revealed that from at least on or before June 2016 through at least on or about February 2017, Sierra Nicole Walker, a.k.a. Nicole Walker, a.k.a. Ciara Walters, a member of the public, engaged in a conspiracy to commit bank fraud and to launder the resulting criminal proceeds. On August 24, 2017, Ms. Walker pled guilty to conspiracy to commit bank fraud and conspiracy to laundering of monetary instruments, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1349 and 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h).

On September 17, 2021, Ms. Walker was sentenced in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia for fraudulently negotiating a District of Columbia government check in the amount of \$166,540.00 intended for a District vendor. Ms. Walker was sentenced to 5 years of supervised probation, a forfeiture money judgement in the amount of \$2,342,547.57, and ordered to pay a \$200 court assessment fee for defrauding the Department of Human Services (DHS) and members of the public.

If any additional information is needed, please contact me or Meredith Helm, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 727-5864 or Meredith.helm@dc.gov.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Lucas Inspector General

DWL/rla

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## Cc: **DISTRIBUTION** (via email):

Mr. Kevin Donahue, City Administrator, District of Columbia The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia The Honorable Brianne K. Nadeau, Chairperson, Committee on Human Services The Honorable Robert C. White, Chairperson, Committee on Government Operations and Facilities

Ms. Laura Zeilinger, Director, Department of Human Services