When an executive branch agency becomes aware that an employee may have violated federal law, the agency is required to refer the matter to the Department of Justice (DOJ). When that referral involves a criminal conflict of interest statute, the agency must also provide an initial notification to OGE when the referral is made and then provide additional disposition information until the matter is resolved. OGE is reliant on each agency for timely notification of referrals and subsequent disposition information.

To protect the integrity of any ongoing investigation, the initial notification to OGE does not specify which statute(s) may have been violated. That information is reported later. Therefore, the total number of initial referral notifications in Table 1 may not equal the number of individual statutory violations in Table 2.