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(S.D.)-Investigators Probe Allegations Of Misconduct In Economic Office



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/31/2013 08:41 AM

PIERRE, S.D. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - South Dakota's attorney general and governor have confirmed an investigation into the state economic development office.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard acknowledged the investigation Wednesday in response to questions from the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, which first reported it.

He says he learned earlier this year about the "alleged misconduct" that happened before he became governor in 2010.

Daugaard says there's been a federal investigation and he asked the state to investigate.

Attorney General Marty Jackley confirmed the request to "review allegations of financial misconduct."

A former secretary of the department died Oct. 22 of a gunshot wound near Lake Andes. Richard Benda served from 2006 to 2010 under former Gov. Mike Rounds. His funeral was Tuesday.

A governor's aide declined to say whether Benda was the subject of the investigation.