

## **Summary: Ethics Violations by Former BIA Employee**

**Report Date: March 6, 2018**

**Report Number: 13-0211**

OIG investigated allegations that a former Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) contracting employee had a conflict of interest involving a government contractor. We also investigated allegations that the employee had an inappropriate relationship with a second government contractor.

Our investigation confirmed the allegations. The employee signed an agreement with a contractor to assist the contractor in obtaining government contracts in exchange for the employee receiving help to develop business on an Indian reservation. The employee denied the conflict of interest, however, the contractor provided us with the contract, which bore the employee's signature.

We further determined that the employee attended social functions and accepted at least one meal from the second government contractor, a prohibited source. The employee also failed to disclose multiple outside employment interests and income as required by government regulation.

The employee left the Department. Prosecution was declined by the U.S. Attorney for the District of New Mexico.

This is a summary of a report that we issued to the Director of the BIA.

