

# Summary: Investigation of BLM IT Specialist

**Report Date: August 13, 2013**

OIG investigated allegations of potential misuse of Government time and equipment by an information technology (IT) specialist and network administrator in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) after receiving a report from the Department's Advanced Security Operations Center that a spreadsheet containing inappropriate content had been uploaded to his workstation.

We sought to determine whether this IT specialist used a Government computer to conduct any illegal activity, including accessing child pornography. We also investigated whether he conducted personal work on Government equipment during Government time, and whether any potentially dangerous Internet activity occurred on his Government computer while he was logged in with network administrator credentials.

Our investigation found that the IT specialist used his Government computer to access the spreadsheet from a personal email account while logged into his regular work account, not his administrator account. While we confirmed that the spreadsheet did contain inappropriate content, including personal and financial information for individuals depicted on pornographic sites, we found no indication that he accessed pornographic sites or maintained pornographic images of any kind on his Government desktop or laptop computers.

Our investigation also determined that the IT specialist's supervisor considered these actions to be a security violation, due to the IT specialist's elevated privileges as a network administrator, because of network exposure to data and other threats through his personal account.

We found no evidence that the IT specialist used his administrator account to access personal email or any other website that could be considered a security risk.

We closed this investigation with no further action required. We provided a referral memorandum to BLM for any administrative action deemed necessary but did not require a response.

*This is a summary of an investigative report that was issued internally to the U.S. Department of the Interior. This summary was posted to the web on June 1, 2015.*

