

Summary: BOR Employee Misused Government Credit Card—Committed Time and Attendance Fraud

Report Date: February 14, 2022

Report Number: 19-0570

The OIG investigated allegations that a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) employee used a Government purchase card for personal benefit and committed time and attendance fraud by claiming hours not worked.

We found that, over a 5-year period, the employee made \$8,782.23 in illegal purchases on the Government-issued credit card, including purchases of computer equipment, furniture, food, cell phone accessories, an airline seat upgrade, and numerous gift cards. We also found that, from July 2018 through May 2019, the employee falsified time and attendance records to claim \$37,319 for hours the employee did not work. We reviewed BOR network records and found 94 days where the employee certified that she was working from home but was not logged in to her Government computer. When confronted with this information during our interview on June 4, 2019, the employee admitted to the theft and subsequently resigned.

In September 2021, the employee pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to multiple counts in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641, “Embezzlement or Theft of Public Money, Property or Records.” In December 2021, the Court sentenced the employee to 3 years of probation and ordered the employee to pay restitution in the amount of \$46,101.23 plus a \$500 special assessment.

This is a summary of an investigative report we issued to the BOR Acting Commissioner.

