

# Summary: Investigation of Federal Employee Benefits Group

**Report Date: January 14, 2013**

OIG investigated allegations that the Federal Employees Benefits Group, Inc. (FEBG) took unnamed FWS officials to football games, including the Super Bowl, and provided them with lavish meals to influence those officials into selecting FEBG as the provider of retirement seminars and services to FWS personnel, thereby allowing the owner of FEBG to propagate a Ponzi scheme through Government-sanctioned retirement seminars. The owner of FEBG took his life around the same time that an investigation conducted by the FBI and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission began to uncover the Ponzi scheme.

We found the allegations to be unfounded. We found no record of FEBG or its owner ever having been contracted or paid by FWS or DOI to give any type of seminar training. A nearly identical allegation was sent to 11 Federal bureaus and agencies. DOI's Office of the Solicitor conducted a separate, independent investigation, which also determined the allegations to be unfounded.

We closed this investigation and provided a copy of our report to the FWS Director for informational purposes only.

*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.*

