

# Summary: Investigation of National Business Center Official

**Report Date: July 11, 2012**

In November 2009, OIG initiated an investigation into allegations that an official in DOI's National Business Center (NBC) (now the Interior Business Center) steered NBC contracts to women he was dating and used Government funds to pay for his membership on an exclusive research board composed mainly of IT executives from large corporations such as Johnson & Johnson and Procter & Gamble.

Our investigation yielded the following findings:

- The NBC official held an exclusive Gartner Research Board membership, which cost the Government \$235,000 over 2 years. We could not determine any benefit to the Government from this membership.
- The NBC official had a relationship with an employee of GTSI, an NBC contractor. While in this relationship, the NBC official was personally involved in the procurement process for an email services contract later awarded to GTSI.
- The NBC official also often attended “happy hours” with GTSI employees, accepting meals and drinks.

The NBC official declined to be interviewed by our investigators. After he became aware of our investigation, it appears that he asked an NBC IT employee to “wipe” his work hard drive. The NBC official subsequently resigned from Federal service.

The matter was presented to the U.S. Attorney's Office in Washington, DC, which declined to prosecute. We provided the results of our investigation to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Technology, Information, and Business Services. We also briefed the NBC Director on the case and recommended that NBC remind its employees of its policies and procedures to help ensure compliance going forward.

*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 April 10, 2015.*

