



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Based on an OIG recommendation in a 2019 report, *Inspection of Embassy Kolonia, Federated States of Micronesia (ISP-I-19-05)*, Embassy Kolonia provided documentation showing a full accounting of de-obligated funds put to better use in the amount of \$707,038.55.

OIG’s [2019 report on the health and wellness of explosive detection canines](#) resulted in Congressional action to include an additional requirement in the Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022. The action requires the Department to report on policies and procedures it has adopted to implement OIG’s recommendations and to provide updates on the status of dogs currently in, and retired from, the program since June 2019.

In March 2022, Keith Fisher Sr. was [sentenced to 99 months in prison](#), 87 months for attempting to defraud businesses in connection with government contracting and an additional 12 months for violating his supervised release from a prior conviction. Naval Criminal Investigative Service, General Services Administration, and OIG special agents determined when Fisher was nearing the end of a previous prison sentence, he used his company, Atlantic Safety Corporation, to bid on federal contracts through a reverse auction online marketplace that enables government agencies to post requirements for goods. Upon submitting a winning bid, Atlantic Safety was awarded a contract, then used an alias to subcontract with a third-party vendor to provide goods directly to the government agency. Fisher also made fraudulent representations to other potential subcontractor vendors.

In March 2022, Linda Johnson pleaded guilty to one count of money laundering. Previously, in October 2021, Wanda Barker pleaded guilty to engaging in monetary transactions in property derived from specified unlawful activity, approximately 1 month after co-conspirator Olayinka Agboola pleaded guilty to the same charge. Sentencing is pending. In 2020, Barker, Agboola, and Johnson were also indicted for using a business email compromise scheme to defraud the Department. OIG and FBI special agents determined [individuals tricked the Department and a non-profit agency](#) into wiring at least \$575,000 into bank accounts they

RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS

as of March 31, 2022

610*

Open Recommendations

35

Recommendations Closed During March

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[Ongoing Work](#)

Classified recommendations above are not included in these totals since their status is currently unavailable due to COVID-19 remote working conditions.

*This total also includes 45 recommendations associated with IBWC.

controlled for the purpose of enriching themselves and their co-conspirators.

In March 2022, [Tanner Jackson was sentenced](#) to 33 months in prison, 3 years supervised release, 100 hours of community service, \$15,100 in fines and assessments, and \$184,512 in restitution. Previously, in November 2021, [Jackson pleaded guilty](#) to a wire fraud scheme involving the selling of Chinese-made military helmets, body armor, and other products to the Department and other federal agencies while falsely claiming that his company manufactured the goods in Texas. FBI, Army Criminal Investigative Division, and OIG special agents determined Tanner altered or falsified ballistics laboratory test reports that he provided to the government to conceal the origin of the products.

In March 2022, [Osa Martin was convicted](#) of one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and one count of conspiracy of false use of government seals for her role in a multimillion-dollar international advance-fee scheme orchestrated from Nigeria. OIG and FBI special agents determined that Martin impersonated a BB&T representative from August 2015 through August 2016, scamming victims out of \$2 million in the hopes of receiving \$22.5 million from BB&T Corporation to invest in natural

resource projects. In addition, Martin and co-conspirators ensured the victims received fake receipts and documents bearing State Department seals to appear as though the U.S. Government was notarizing and sponsoring the investment agreements. Sentencing is pending.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Protection Detail Created Orientation Program to Familiarize Agents With Needed Skills (*Inspection of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, Domestic Operations, Office of Protection, [ISP-I-22-08](#)*)

The protection detail for the Ambassador to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations created an in-house orientation training program. A 2-day orientation course was created to help temporary agents with protection rehearsals, equipment, and skills specific to UN protection details. The special agents also drafted standard operating procedures to codify this training. Permanent special agents on the details also valued this orientation course, stating that it offered them a refresher of their Basic Regional Security Officer training and instruction on areas not covered in their initial training. Due to its success, other protection details within the Dignitary Protection Division started developing similar courses.

Crisis Management Exercises for Major Events Prepared Watch Officers to Respond to Emergencies (*Inspection of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, Domestic Operations, Office of Protection, [ISP-I-22-08](#)*)

The Bureau of Diplomatic Security's Major Events Coordination Unit collaborated with the Department's Foreign Service Institute to develop and conduct crisis management exercises for specific events and event sites. The exercises helped prepare watch officers from DS and other U.S. Government agencies, such as the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, to respond to a variety of potential crises by maximizing their respective capabilities. Members of three non-DS agencies, a unit Overseas Security Coordinator, and a unit Field Liaison Officer told OIG the exercises were instrumental in responding to emergencies during past events, such as a cyber threat during the 2018 Olympics in South Korea, a crime threat at the 2019 Pan American Games in Peru, and

an international aviation threat during the 2019 Women's World Cup in Paris.

NEW WORK STARTED

- *Audit of Department of State FY 2022 and FY 2021 Financial Statements*
- *Inspection of the Afghanistan Affairs Unit (AAU)*
- *Inspection of Embassy Buenos Aires, Argentina*
- *Inspection of Embassy Kuwait City, Kuwait*
- *Inspection of Embassy La Paz, Bolivia*
- *Inspection of Embassy Ottawa, Canada, and constituent posts*
- *Inspection of the United States Mission to the International Aviation Organization (USICAO)*
- *Inspection of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)*

REPORTS ISSUED

- Management Letter Related to the Audit of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, U.S. Section, FY 2021 Financial Statements ([AUD-FM-22-25](#))
- *Audit of the Process To Prepare Residences for New Tenants at U.S. Embassy Cairo, Egypt* ([AUD-MERO-22-23](#))
- *Information Report: Systemic Deficiencies Related to the Department of State's Fuel Management From FY 2016 Through FY 2020* ([AUD-MERO-22-20](#))
- *Inspection of Embassy Santiago, Chile* ([ISP-I-22-10](#))
- *Inspection of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, Domestic Operations, Office of Protection* ([ISP-I-22-08](#))



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