

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
INVESTIGATIONS



INVESTIGATIVE CASE SUMMARIES



**December 2018 and January 2019**

In December 2018, [a Nigerian national was charged in a complaint](#) for his role as the alleged ringleader of an international investment scheme. OIG and FBI special agents investigated this matter. As alleged in the complaint, perpetrators impersonated U.S. bank officials in person at U.S. embassies and over the internet and made false promises of investment funding. Proceeds of the scheme were allegedly laundered through U.S. bank accounts and diverted back to the scheme's perpetrators in Nigeria. Another Nigerian national was charged in a separate case in October 2018, and seven other individuals (six from the U.S. and one from the Philippines) have been charged as part of the same investigation.

In January 2019, a former Department employee was issued a notice of indebtedness to the Department in the amount of \$39,436 for misappropriating funds. OIG special agents determined the former employee stole funds and diverted materials, such as floor tile and air conditioning units, obtained through legitimate Government purchase orders to complete a family member's home renovation project. The Bureau of Diplomatic Security revoked the employee's security clearance, and the employee resigned.

In January 2019, [a former Department employee was sentenced to 15 months in prison](#) followed by a three-year term of supervised release and ordered to pay \$244,884 in restitution for fraudulently discharging over \$250,000 in student loan debt. The former employee applied through the Department of Education for a Total and Permanent Disability discharge of student loan debt, affirming that he was disabled and unable to work. OIG special agents determined however, that he earned over \$331,000 from two full-time jobs from May 2013 through October 2016. He also purchased a Bentley, a Porsche, and other luxury vehicles.