

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



INVESTIGATIVE CASE SUMMARIES



June 2018

In June 2018, [a Costa Rican national pleaded guilty to theft of Government funds](#) in Federal court. OIG special agents determined the individual used his position as president of a Costa Rican company to steal more than \$2 million in Government funds that were supposed to be transferred to a bank account maintained by the Department's Global Financial Services Center in Charleston, South Carolina. The company had been hired as a subcontractor to handle the processing of visa application fees for the United States Embassy in Costa Rica. As part of the scheme, the individual diverted the funds from a company bank account in Costa Rica to another Costa Rican account under his sole control.

In June 2018, [a New York man pleaded guilty to six counts of wire fraud](#) in connection with committing Government contracting fraud. OIG and General Services Administration (GSA) OIG special agents determined the individual was previously placed in proposed debarment status by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for providing counterfeit goods and for a history of failure to perform or unsatisfactory performance on contracts. After learning of his proposed debarment, the individual created a new company in order to continue obtaining Government contracts, including contracts awarded by GSA and the Department. The individual used a fake alias to falsely certify to the Government that he was not currently proposed for debarment. His company received 37 contracts worth approximately \$245,000 as a result of this false certification. He later created another company and used another fake alias to falsely certify that he was not presently debarred. That company received seven contracts worth approximately \$60,000 as a result of this false certification. Sentencing is scheduled for September 2018.