

## **Summary: Investigation of BIA sole-source awards for work related to a Budget Execution Reporting Tool.**

**Report Date: January 13, 2015**

OIG investigated allegations that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) issued sole-source contracts to companies that did not have the technical capabilities to complete the work, and that a conflict of interest may have existed between a BIA contracting official and one of the companies. BIA reportedly issued the sole-source contracts to Information Planning Associates (IPA) and to Veterans Solutions, Inc. (VSI) for work related to a Budget Execution Reporting Tool (BERT).

We confirmed that BIA did award a sole-source contract to IPA in 2006 related to BERT, but did not award a sole-source contract to VSI. We also found that the BIA contracting official who allegedly had a conflict of interest with VSI has since retired, as has the official who decided to use sole-source procedures on this particular contract. Lastly, because the sole-source contract was awarded in 2006, the statute of limitations involving criminal conflicts of interest has since passed.

We provided this report to BIA for information only and did not require a response.

*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 December 15, 2015.*

