

Summary: Investigation of FAR Violations at Canaveral National Seashore

Report Date: October 16, 2015

OIG investigated reports that National Park Service (NPS) employees at the Canaveral National Seashore (CNS) violated the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) by making split purchases with Government charge cards, which exceeded micro-purchase thresholds, to avoid fair and open contracting procedures.

We found that CNS staff remodeled the visitor's entrance fee booth through a series of micro-purchases under the direction of the CNS facilities manager, even though this construction project required formal contracting procedures under the FAR. There was no evidence to indicate that the facilities manager attempted to calculate the cumulative cost of the repairs and develop a formal statement of work for a consolidated construction project. Further, no one attempted to consult with the supporting contracting office for guidance on the project.

We also discovered that the CNS chief ranger made a series of credit card purchases with a local vendor splitting the total cost of equipping a law enforcement patrol vehicle, which otherwise would have exceeded the micro-purchase threshold. The vendor invoiced the work using separate bills even though the vendor completed all the work at one time.

This is a summary of an investigative report that was issued to NPS for any action deemed appropriate.

