

Summary: Investigation of allegations of law enforcement misconduct by Grand Canyon National Park Rangers

Report Date: June 24, 2016

OIG investigated allegations that two Grand Canyon National Park (GRCA) rangers conducted improper searches and that a third ranger was aggressive in his use of force.

We could not determine whether a GRCA ranger improperly searched a GRCA visitor during a traffic stop because the ranger did not video record the search. Based on witness interviews, however, we believe that the ranger exceeded the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's standards for conducting a Terry frisk (a search of a suspect's outer clothing for concealed weapons).

We did not substantiate allegations that a second ranger improperly searched the contents of a vehicle belonging to a GRCA visitor during a traffic stop. Finally, we did not substantiate allegations that a third ranger used excessive force while arresting a GRCA visitor during a traffic stop or that he used excessive force during an arrest of a GRCA concessionaire.

We referred our findings the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, which declined to accept the case for prosecution.

This is a summary of an investigative report that we issued to the Director of the National Park Service for any action deemed appropriate.

