

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



INVESTIGATIVE CASE SUMMARIES



June 2020

In June 2020, a federal grand jury indicted Keith Fisher Sr., the former president of a company providing goods to federal government agencies, [for trying to defraud businesses in connection with government contracting](#). OIG, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and General Services Administration (GSA) OIG special agents found that, while on supervised release for conspiring to commit mail fraud, Fisher allegedly bid on federal contracts by using an alias to subcontract with a third-party vendor to provide goods directly to the government agency. In addition, he allegedly made false and fraudulent claims to other potential subcontractor vendors. Both Fisher and his company were debarred for 10 years.

In June 2020, Alutiq International Solutions LLC (AIS) [entered into a non-prosecution agreement and has agreed to pay over \\$1.25 million](#) to resolve a Department of Justice investigation into a kickback and fraud scheme on a contract to modernize the U.S. Department of State Harry S. Truman Building in Washington, D.C. According to AIS admissions in the non-prosecution agreement, former AIS project manager Elmer Baker began receiving kickbacks in 2010 from a subcontractor on the project in exchange for steering work to that subcontractor. By 2015, Baker began demanding cash kickbacks equivalent to 10 percent of the value of contract modifications awarded to the subcontractor. In May 2019, a federal grand jury indicted Baker for conspiracy to violate the Anti-Kickback Act and wire fraud. Baker's trial is scheduled for December 2020. OIG, FBI, and GSA OIG special agents investigated this case.

In June 2020, a former owner, his company, and the former vice president of sales were debarred for 5 years after being convicted in June 2019 of conspiring to defraud the federal government. OIG, FBI, and Homeland Security Investigations special agents determined that these defendants conspired to supply substitute body armor plates to a federal government contractor. This resulted in the delivery of plates that falsely claimed they conformed to certain specifications. In September 2019, the contractor replaced \$3,252,642 worth of non-conforming body armor with legitimate products.

In June 2020, the Department debarred a former contractor employee for theft. The former contractor employee was implementing two Department cooperative agreements to train local governments to carry out their legislative functions more effectively and to prepare for upcoming local and national elections. OIG and company investigators determined that the former contractor employee stole approximately \$172,000 from a company bank account. This person had signatory authority over the account and used that authority to withdraw the funds improperly. He later tried to conceal the withdrawal by preparing false bank statements. Previously, in July 2019, the company terminated this person's employment.