

Summary: Unfounded Allegations of Embezzlement by Alaska Native-Owned Company

Report Date: October 27, 2021

Report Number: 16-0434

The OIG investigated allegations that an executive officer of an Alaska Native-owned company embezzled funds from a Native Alaskan Village totaling approximately \$1.3 million in 2014 and 2015.

We did not substantiate the allegations that the executive officer embezzled funds from the village. We reviewed records that the village provided, and while the records were incomplete, we determined that the Alaska Native-owned company received \$663,543.84 in 2014 and \$656,582.42 in 2015 for financial and administrative services. In accordance with the village's policies and procedures, the village tribal administrator reviewed the associated invoices and issued checks in payment that were signed by two village council members. We found that the village council members knew of the payments and that the executive officer did not conceal the amount or frequency of the billing.

We coordinated our investigation with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Alaska.

This is a summary of an investigative report we issued to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Director.

