

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

*Central Intelligence Agency  
Inspector General*

# REPORT OF INVESTIGATION



## (U) MISREPRESENTATION OF ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS AND FALSE STATEMENTS BY A TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER (2011-10144-IG)

15 MAY 2012

*David B. Buckley  
Inspector General*

*Assistant Inspector General  
for Investigations*

*Special Agent*

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) NatSecAct

**NOTICE:** The information in this report is covered by the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a, and should be handled accordingly.

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Copy 7

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

*Office of Inspector General  
Investigations Staff*

# REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

## (U) MISREPRESENTATION OF ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS AND FALSE STATEMENTS BY A TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER (2011-10144-IG)

12 March 2012

### Section 1 – Subject:

(b)(1)  
(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(3) NatSecAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

### Section 2 – Predication:

(S) Based on a 2008 United States Secret Service investigation that identified an Agency contractor as possessing a degree from a known diploma mill, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) initiated a proactive investigation on 5 August 2008 into Agency staff claiming degrees from non-accredited institutions. OIG matched a list of known, unaccredited institutions against Agency BIO information to identify any individuals who had provided degree evidence to Human Resources. One of the individuals identified, [redacted] claimed a bachelor's and master's degrees from [redacted] on his Agency BIO. [redacted] is an unaccredited institution and is not affiliated with the accredited [redacted]

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

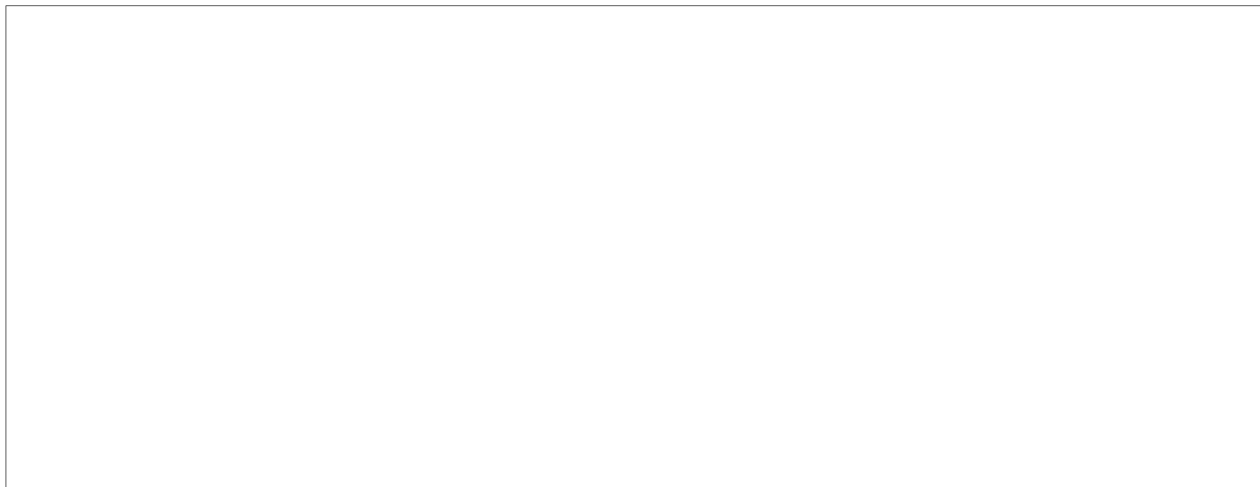
### Section 3 – Potential Violations:

(U) Title 18 U.S.C. § 1001 (*Fraud and False Statements, Statements or entries generally*) provides in pertinent part:

Except as otherwise provided in this section, whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Government of the United States, knowingly and willfully-

- (1) falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact;
- (2) makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or
- (3) makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry; shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both. . . .

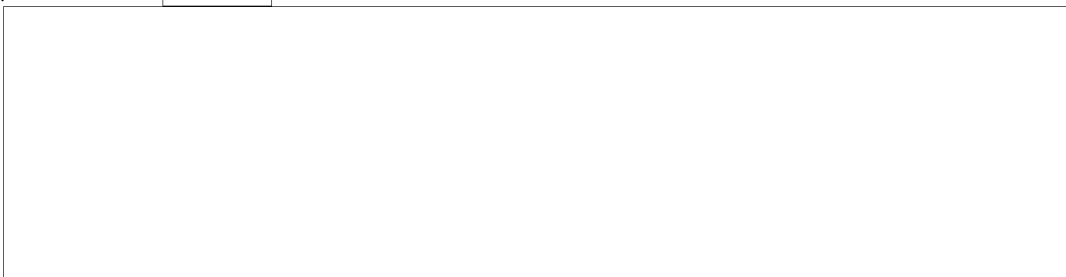
### Section 4 - Investigative Findings:



(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c) (U//~~FOUO~~) (Exhibit A) The letter provided by the Department of Justice (DOJ) to former [redacted] students, sent in [redacted] stated in part:

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)



(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

~~(S)~~ (Exhibit B) [redacted] obtained both bachelor's and master's degrees in [redacted]

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

[redacted] obtained an accredited bachelor's degree from [redacted] prior to entering on duty with the Agency [redacted] reported the degrees from [redacted]

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6) [redacted] and from [redacted] during [redacted]

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)

(b)(7)(c)

~~(S)~~ (Exhibit C) [redacted] participated in the restitution program from DOJ, and claimed restitution for the unaccredited degree. To obtain restitution, students were required to file claim forms stating that they were victims of fraud. [redacted]

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

[redacted] received reimbursement check from DOJ [redacted]

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct

(b)(6)

(b)(7)(c)

~~(S//NF)~~ (Exhibit D) [redacted] presented his two degrees from [redacted] to the US

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

Government on multiple occasions, including performance appraisals and job applications. None of the positions required a master's degree. Individual presentations included:

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

<sup>1</sup> (U) The attached letter is the template sent to all individuals reimbursed by the Department of Justice. Individual letters were not retained.

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

(b)(1)  
(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(3) NatSecAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)



(C) (Exhibit E) During his 9 October 2008 interview with OIG, when asked if he had used his master's degree in any way in the Agency,  stated that he did not

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

believe he mentioned the degree to anyone except to request it be removed from his BIO. [redacted]

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(E) (Exhibit E) [redacted] stated multiple times during his interview with OIG that he did not recall receiving any correspondence from DOJ regarding the [redacted] case. Further, [redacted] stated multiple times that he did not recall receiving any money from the DOJ settlement [redacted]

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)  
(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

**Section 5 – Conclusions:**

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(E) OIG referred [redacted] to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Virginia (EDVA) on 12 March 2009 for violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1001 (*Fraud and False Statements, Statements or entries generally*). EDVA declined prosecution on 22 December 2009 for lack of prosecutive merit in favor of administrative action.

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c) (E) [redacted] was made aware that his degrees from [redacted] were fraudulent as part of the DOJ settlement and received restitution [redacted] obtained a second bachelor's degree [redacted] before applying to the Agency because he was aware he needed an accredited degree to qualify for a federal government position [redacted]. Further, [redacted] stated to OIG that he was aware his degrees were not accredited and had not used his degrees within the Agency. Despite being aware of the status of his degrees, [redacted] knowingly presented his degrees to the Agency for use in being promoted and obtaining positions [redacted]. The degrees were not just listed on his Agency BIO—[redacted] highlighted them and provided additional details on his master's thesis. OIG believes that [redacted] presentation and highlighting of [redacted] degrees were false statements in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)  
(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c) (E) OIG obtained evidence that [redacted] used his degrees within the Agency on multiple occasions, and that he received a reimbursement check from DOJ [redacted]. [redacted] OIG believes that [redacted] made false statements in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 1001 to OIG by stating that he had not used his degrees within the Agency and that he had not received settlement money from DOJ.

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct (b)(6)  
(b)(6) (b)(7)(c)  
(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

[redacted]

(b)(3) CIAAct (b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(6) (b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c) (b)(7)(c)

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

(b)(1)  
(b)(3) CIAAct  
(b)(3) NatSecAct  
(b)(5)  
(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

**Section 6 - Recommendation:**

[Redacted content]

CONCUR:

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

[Redacted signature]

David B. Buckley  
Inspector General

15 MAY 12

Date

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

CIA/OIG Loan Copy  
Do Not Copy

(b)(6)  
(b)(7)(c)

**Section 7 – Exhibits:**

- Exhibit A – Department of Justice Notifications – [redacted]
- Exhibit B – Background investigation details – [redacted]
- Exhibit C – Reimbursement check from DOJ – [redacted]
- Exhibit D – Documents where [redacted] presented his degrees to the Agency
- Exhibit E – Interview Report and Statement – [redacted] dated 9 October 2008

(b)(3) CIAAct

(b)(6)

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct

(b)(6)

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct

(b)(6)

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(3) CIAAct

(b)(6)

(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~