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DOJ OIG Releases Report on BOP Contracts Awarded to
Pacific Forensic Psychology Associates, Inc., San Diego, California

Department of Justice (DOJ) Inspector General Michael E. Horowitz announced today the release of an audit report on three contracts totaling $6,949,151 to Pacific Forensic Psychology Associates, Inc. (Pacific Forensic) in San Diego, California. The contracts were to provide federal inmates in residential re-entry centers or under home confinement with Community Treatment Services (CTS), which includes substance abuse treatment and mental health services.

The DOJ Office of the Inspector General (OIG) identified significant deficiencies with BOP’s management of its contracts to Pacific Forensic. A lack of clarity in the BOP’s Statement of Work resulted in interns and psychological assistants providing CTS to inmates without the in-room supervision of a licensed staff member. Additionally, the BOP did not have procedures to notify Pacific Forensic that sex offenders were being referred for CTS, and BOP did not ensure that the contractor’s facility, which operated in close proximity to a business that catered to children, met safety requirements and had safety procedures for handling sex offender inmates. We also determined that Pacific Forensic lacked the proper internal controls to ensure that its contractual obligations to the BOP were being fulfilled, and we identified $22,168 in questioned costs.

As noted in the report, we believe the issues we identified, particularly those related to the BOP’s national Statement of Work language and requirements, are potentially occurring on other CTS contracts. Between March 2009 and December 2016, the BOP awarded 446 CTS contracts nationwide, totaling approximately $392 million.

Today’s report makes 16 recommendations to the BOP to improve its contract administration and to assist Pacific Forensic in improving its contract management and administration. The BOP agreed with all 16 recommendations. Pacific Forensic disagreed with 3 recommendations and did not explicitly agree or disagree with the rest.

Report: Today’s report can be found on the OIG’s website under “Recent Reports” at the following link: https://oig.justice.gov/reports/2018/a1832.pdf.

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