

**NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

TITLE: Fraud

CASE NUMBER: 06-093

DATE OF REPORT: August 19, 2008

REPORT PREPARED BY: SA [REDACTED]

Y&B

CLOSED

Report of Interview: _____

Report of Documents: _____

Other Activity (Describe): Closing Report

BACKGROUND:

The Office of Inspector of General ("OIG"), Office of Investigation ("OI"), received a call from General Services Administration (GSA) Office of Inspector General, concerning the inappropriate use of GSA gasoline credit cards which were assigned to Amtrak's [REDACTED] Yard [REDACTED], [REDACTED] GSA-OIG reported that the cards were being used in various towns on [REDACTED]. Specifically, GSA Credit Card # [REDACTED] was used frequently at various gas stations on [REDACTED]. OI, along with GSA, conducted an investigation into the allegation. This joint investigation determined that the GSA credit cards used were stolen from Amtrak vehicles which were left unsecured.

FINDING OF FACTS:

Agents conducted interviews of three gas station employees (at various gas stations on [REDACTED]). During these interviews, said employees identified [REDACTED], (since terminated Amtrak employee) who used the GSA credit cards to pay for the of station patrons. According to the attendants interviewed, [REDACTED] would swipe the credit cards and receive half the cash price from the patron, and the attendant would receive half of [REDACTED] proceeds.

The employees of the gas stations were later arrested by Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) OIG. The gas station attendants told ICE Agents that [REDACTED] was involved in a scheme to defraud GSA by swiping stolen GSA gas credit cards and having the car owner pay in cash for half the dollar amount of the gas sale. [REDACTED] later admitted to stealing the credit cards from unlocked

Amtrak vehicles located in [REDACTED], and using them without authorization at various stations on [REDACTED]. Amtrak terminated [REDACTED] on November 2, 2006.

Subsequently, [REDACTED] was prosecuted by the United States Attorneys' Office for the [REDACTED] District of [REDACTED]. On October 17, 2007, [REDACTED] entered a guilty plea to Credit Card Fraud, in violation of 18 USC 1029 (A) (5), in Federal Court. Specifically, [REDACTED] pled guilty to defrauding the Federal Government of approximately \$47500. Approximately \$4200 of this amount was charges on a Wright Express (WEX) charge card belonging to Amtrak. The plea agreement with the government requires [REDACTED] to repay the debt to GSA.

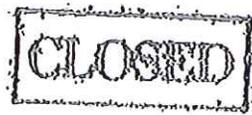
OIG has issued prior reports concerning violations to Policies and Procedures of GSA credit card storage in a safe and secure manner at [REDACTED]. The previous reports concerned theft and inappropriate usage of GSA credit cards which were not always stored securely. OI has made prior management referrals regarding this same issue.¹

The matter was referred to [REDACTED] who has issued a Letter of Instruction to all Engineering employees to strictly adhere to and enforce Amtrak's Policy on the fuel credit cards. In addition he has instructed his managers and supervisors to conduct periodic audits of all headquarters, on all shifts including weekends to ensure the policy is followed, and during the audit a check is to be made that all company gas cards are kept in secured locations.

CONCLUSIONS:

Based on the above information and action taken above, it is recommended that this case be closed.

Supervisory Special Agent [Signature]
Deputy Inspector General/ Counsel [Signature] 9/5/07



¹ Referral appended.