



OFFICE OF  
**INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

# **SEMIANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS**

For the period ending March 31, 2016



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## **Alleged Misuse of Government Charge Cards by NPS Staff at Canaveral National Seashore**

We investigated allegations that employees at the Canaveral National Seashore (CNS) violated the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) by making split purchases with Government charge cards, which exceeded the micropurchase thresholds, to avoid fair and open contracting procedures.

We found that CNS staff remodeled the Visitor's Entrance Fee Booth in the Playalinda District through a series of micropurchases directed by the Facilities Manager. This type of construction project, however, required formal contracting procedures under the FAR. We found no evidence to indicate that the Facilities Manager attempted to calculate the cumulative cost of the repairs and develop a formal Statement of Work for a consolidated construction project. Further, no one at CNS attempted to consult with the supporting contracting office for guidance.

We also discovered that a local vendor split up the total cost of equipping a law enforcement patrol vehicle into a series of credit card purchases, which otherwise would have exceeded the micropurchase threshold. The vendor invoiced the work in several separate billings, even though it conducted all of the work at one time. Neither CNS personnel nor the vendor could explain why the work was invoiced separately.

We did not identify any criminal violations during this investigation, so we provided our findings to the National Park Service for review and action.



*The Seminole Rest boardwalk trail in Canaveral National Seashore in Titusville, FL.*