

United States Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Title Hubbell Trading Post	Case Number PI-PI-07-0054-I
Reporting Office Program Integrity Division	Report Date January 16, 2008
Report Subject Closing Report	

SYNOPSIS

We initiated this investigation based on allegations we received from a National Park Service (NPS) special agent who questioned the integrity of an NPS investigation at the Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site in Ganado, AZ. NPS agents were investigating Bill Malone, Hubbell Trading Post Manager and Trader, Western National Parks Association (WNPA), for forgery and theft. Specifically, the agent alleged that NPS agents cited false information on a search warrant affidavit; exceeded the scope of the warrant; and committed breaches in the chain of custody for property seized. The agent also alleged that NPS agents excluded information from NPS investigative reports and failed to follow leads.

During the course of our investigation, we determined that NPS failed to protect the confidentiality of the investigation, and we found that an improper relationship existed between NPS and WNPA, a nonprofit organization that operates the Hubbell Trading Post under a cooperative agreement with NPS.

Our investigation determined that NPS Special Agent Clyde Yee, the case agent assigned to the Hubbell Trading Post investigation, submitted false information on the search warrant affidavit and did not properly account for cash and evidence seized. The U.S. Attorney's Office declined prosecution of Yee in lieu of administrative remedies.

We also identified two discernible issues of concern during our investigation: (1) NPS Law Enforcement's lack of a thorough investigation and management oversight of the case and (2) the existence of an inappropriate relationship between NPS and WNPA during the NPS investigation.

We are referring the results of this case to NPS management for review and appropriate action.

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BACKGROUND

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site

Established in 1876, the Hubbell Trading Post is the oldest, continuously operated traditional trading post in the American Southwest and has been a center of commerce for trade with the Navajo Indians. The movement to bring the Hubbell Trading Post into the National Park System started in 1957, and Congress established the Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site on August 28, 1965. Public Law 89-148 authorized the purchase of the site to "preserve and protect the post and its invirons for the benefit and enjoyment of the public" (Attachment 1).

Western National Parks Association

WNPA is a nonprofit cooperating association of NPS. The association was founded in 1938 as the Southwest Monuments Association to "support the interpretive activities of NPS," as stated on its Web site. Cooperating associations are authorized by Congress to manage sales areas, such as bookstores and museums, in national parks and donate a portion of the proceeds to the park or parks in which they operate. Cooperating associations and friends groups (other nonprofit entities that partner with NPS, primarily composed of volunteers) help support 347 (90 percent) of the United States' national parks.

Since January 31, 1968, WNPA has managed the retail functions of the Hubbell Trading Post, including the bookstore at the visitor center and the actual trading area – where various goods are exchanged, including groceries, rugs, and jewelry. WNPA places a percentage of revenues generated at the Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site into an Interpretative Support Account. NPS can submit a request to WNPA for those funds to be used to help support the interpretative, scientific, or educational needs of the site. If WNPA approves the request, the monies are donated to NPS for that specific purpose.

The Memorandum of Agreement between NPS and Southwest Parks and Monuments Association (now WNPA), dated December 10, 1999, states the following (Attachment 2):

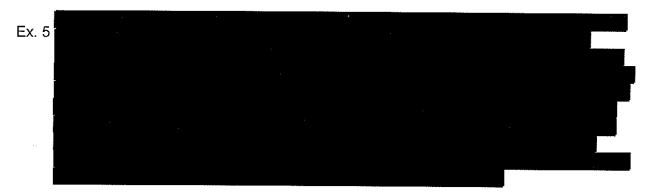
[WNPA is to] conduct the trading operations based on the historical traditions of Hubbell Trading Post and Indian trading while allowing for a continuing evolution of its practices and operations, and to ensure the perpetuation of an active trading post for interpretation to the public. Consistent with this activity, the association will buy and sell a range of Indian arts and crafts, operate a general and grocery store, and carry on related trading activities as an integral part of the interpretive program at Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site. The interpretive mission of the trading operation shall take precedence over profit.

NPS Investigation of Hubbell Trading Post Manager

On April 28, 2004, WNPA officials approached NPS Intermountain Region management at an NPS superintendent's meeting with allegations against WNPA Hubbell Trading Post Trader and Manager Bill Malone. They alleged that Malone may have forged WNPA checks for personal gain. WNPA requested that NPS regional management shut down the Hubbell Trading Post for 3 days to allow WNPA to perform an audit.

The next day, WNPA and NPS Intermountain Region management examined the checks and determined that they appeared to have been forged. They referred the allegations to Intermountain Region Law Enforcement Special Agent-in-Charge (SAC) Jim Reilly, who assigned the investigation to Special Agent Clyde Yee, of Lakewood, CO.

On July 21, 2005, Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA) District Of Arizona, sent SAC Reilly a letter after reading a prosecution summary of the Malone investigation sent to him by Reilly and Yee on July 11, 2005 (Attachment 3). In his letter, AUSA stated the following:



In late 2005, after NPS management became frustrated with the investigation's lack of progress and the investigative costs, which exceeded \$272,000 (not including salaries) NPS Senior Special Agent Paul Berkowitz worked on the case, Reilly assigned Berkowitz to replace Yee and continue the investigation at the Hubbell Trading Post (Attachment 4). Berkowitz also conducted an interview and polygraph of Malone (Attachment 5). Berkowitz also prepared a comprehensive report of investigation of his interviews (Attachment 6).

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Berkowitz forwarded allegations to the OIG that criminal, civil, and administrative violations may have occurred during Yee's investigation of Malone. Berkowitz alleged that NPS agents cited false information on a search warrant affidavit; exceeded the scope of the warrant; and committed breaches in the chain of custody for the property seized. He also alleged that NPS agents excluded information from NPS investigative reports and failed to follow leads.

Initially, we focused our investigation on the allegations forwarded by Berkowitz; however, we expanded our investigation when we became aware of additional concerns regarding the confidentiality of the criminal investigation; the potential release of Criminal Procedure, Rule 6(e) information; and the appearance of an inappropriate relationship between NPS and WNPA. During the course of our investigation, we interviewed 28 individuals and reviewed thousands of documents and e-mails.

While WNPA initially cooperated with our investigation, our repeated efforts to interview WNPA employees after April 2007 were unsuccessful – WNPA would not agree to further interviews with the OIG. WNPA's attorney provided an e-mail to our office: "My client believes that it has more than assisted in your investigation. As such, no one associated with WNPA wish [sic] to discuss this matter with you now or in future. Please do not contact my client again" (Attachment 7).

Allegations Made Against Bill Malone

WNPA in August 2003 (Attachment 8). While was responsible for managing 65 park sites for WNPA, explained that one of primary duties, as directed by WNPA Chairman Jim Babbitt was to focus on the operation and management of the Hubbell Trading Post.
said was also told during initial interview with WNPA before was hired that the Hubbell Trading Post employees had conduct and performance problems. said that after assumed position, began discussing trading post operations with the WNPA Board. was told that WNPA had concerns regarding the management of the Hubbell Trading Post and its lack of reliable and accurate accounting procedures.
stated that because the Hubbell Trading Post was WNPA's largest revenue-producing unit of the 65 NPS sites it managed, made several trips to the trading post within first few months as (Attachment 9). said site inspections at the trading post confirmed the Board's concern for how poorly the Hubbell Trading Post was being managed.
In November 2003, said WNPA informed that was going to have to transfer money from the WNPA general operating account to the WNPA Hubbell Trading Post account because there were insufficient funds to conduct trading post operations said this surprised since the Hubbell Trading Post was supposed to be self-sustaining. related that during preparation for a March 2004 audit by WNPA, also informed that sales tickets (receipts of purchase) were missing at the Hubbell Trading Post. explained that the sales tickets were a vital part of WNPA's accounting system (See Attachment 8).
stated that was also concerned about how consignment items – items sold on behalf of local citizens and Navajo artisans – were being inventoried and accounted for at the trading post. said WNPA Hubbell Trading Post employees and told Malone handled all of the consignments; the missing sales tickets all appeared to be from consignment sales.
stated that as began counting the inventory of rugs for sale at the trading post in order to determine which were consignment items and which were purchased directly by WNPA, Malone seemed to become uneasy. Said determined that the value of the rugs totaled \$743,810, which far exceeded anybody's estimate. Stated that at this point, developed concerns regarding WNPA's liability. Was later informed by WNPA's insurance agent that WNPA only had \$10,000 in coverage for "property of others."
stated that the trading post maintained two checking accounts at that time – one for consignment items and another for items purchased by WNPA. said told Malone to stop using the consignment checking account since WNPA could issue the checks needed to pay individuals. said Hubbell Trading Post told Malone would lraft checks to pay individuals and then endorse the artisan's name on the back as if they had signed the check.
said became very concerned and thought illegal activity might be occurring. said said said said said said said said

PI-PI-07-0054-I endorsing the checks, as had suggested to stated that then called WNPA Chairman Babbitt and Board member , and notified the Board of Directors at an April 13, 2004 WNPA Board Meeting in Billings, MT. In a statement made to Berkowitz, said the Board decided to present the allegations to NPS. Agent's Note: was also interviewed once by Yee; was later interviewed several times by Berkowitz during the time he was assigned the Malone investigation (See Attachments 9, 10, and 11). After the Board submitted the allegations to NPS, Intermountain Region Law Enforcement SAC Jim Reilly assigned the investigation to Yee.

Case Number:

NPS Investigation of Bill Malone

Search of Malone's Home

On June 8, 2004, Yee obtained a federal search warrant for Bill Malone's residence at the Hubbell Trading Post housing compound. NPS agents held a meeting that evening before the search, and attendees included the following individuals: NPS Intermountain Region Deputy Director (now Director) Mike Snyder; Intermountain Region Associate Director for Communications Intermountain Region Chief of Ranger Activities both accountants for Devries and Associates, WNPA's accounting firm; WNPA employees and and two NPS rangers tasked with providing security during the search warrant.

Yee executed the warrant with a team the following morning. After an 18-hour search at Malone's residence, Yee and search team members, including seized approximately 557 Navajo rugs, 7,000 pieces of jewelry, and an indeterminate amount of cash and checks.

Agent's Note: We could not determine the exact amount of cash and checks seized from Malone's residence because Yee did not document the seizure or use appropriate chain-of-custody procedures.

We found that the search warrant obtained by Yee authorizing the search and seizure of items from Malone's residence specifically identified the scope of the articles to be seized as the following (Attachments 12 and 13):

Financial and business documents, ledgers, records, receipts, including consignment ledgers, consignment checks, loan index cards and white and pink sales tickets, for the period 1990 through the present [June 8, 2004], reflecting purchases and sales of inventory by Hubbell Trading Post and Western National Parks Association, goods taken on consignment...currency reflecting fruits of the fraud.

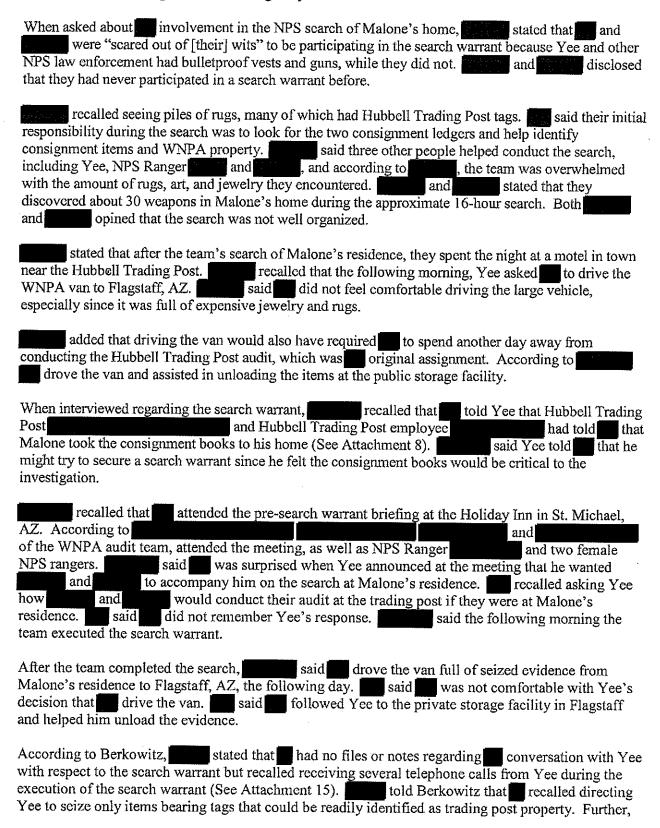
During his interview with the OIG, Yee stated that the search team seized Navajo rugs and pieces of jewelry from Malone's residence because they had markings similar to items found in the Hubbell Trading Post (Attachment 14).

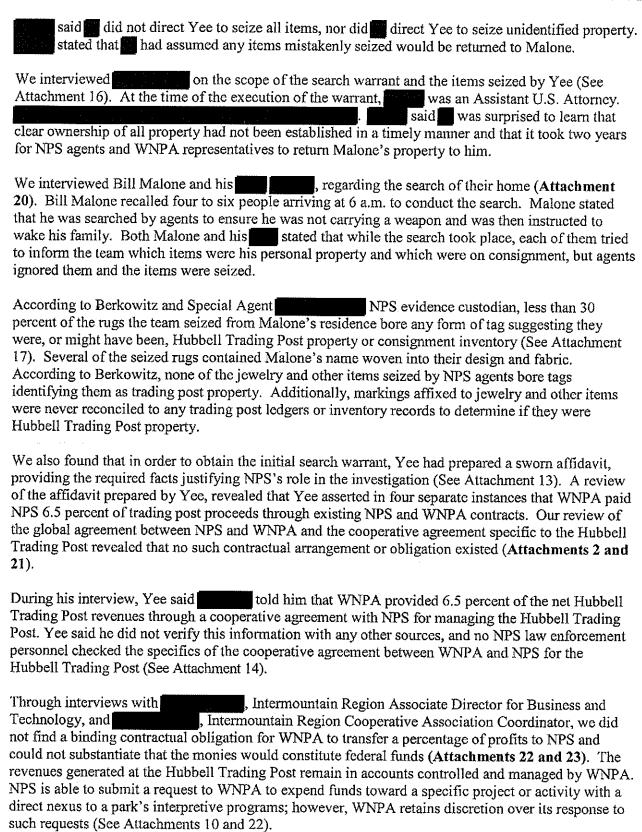
Agent's Note: Interviews with current and former WNPA and Hubbell Trading Post employees confirmed that Malone made no distinction between his residence and the Hubbell Trading Post and routinely

conducted Hubbell Trading Post business, including storing consignment items to be repaired or other Hubbell Trading Post merchandise, at his home. In addition, Malone had received rugs and jewelry as compensation for being the Pinon Trading Post trader for a number of years.

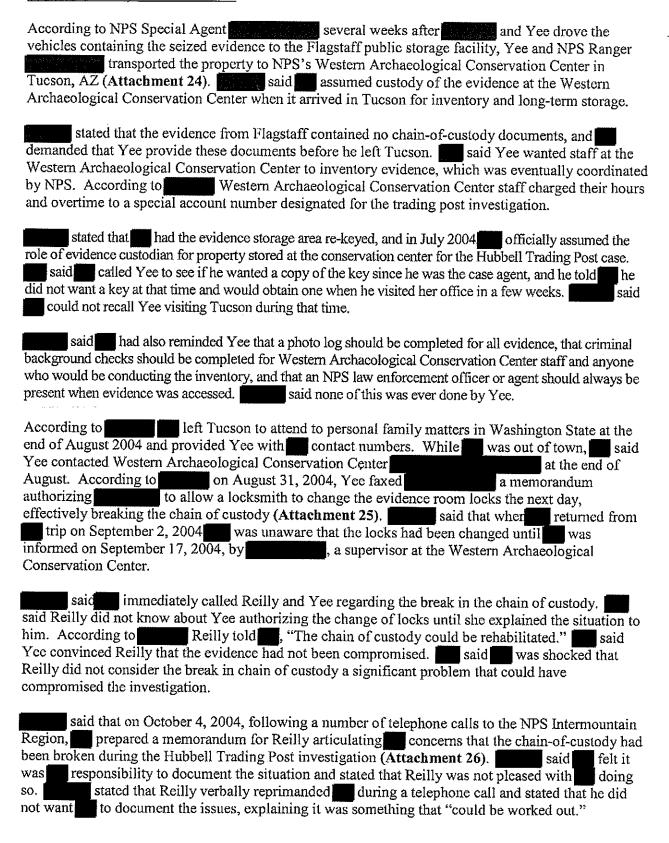
Yee stated that during the course of the search, he made several telephone calls to then Assistant U.S. to obtain guidance on what property he should seize. According to Berkowitz, Yee Attorney directed him to seize all property that might belong to the Hubbell Trading Post and that told him NPS could verify ownership later (Attachment 15). Further, Yee explained to Berkowitz that he seized all property present in the house and garage that appeared as though it might belong to the Hubbell Trading Post. He said he also seized any property located next to, or adjacent to, these items. Agent's Note: Interviews with revealed conflicting statements as to what guidance was given related to the seizure of items from Malone's residence (Attachments 15 and 16). Neither the search warrant nor the search warrant affidavit properly identified the items that were ultimately seized by the search team. In addition, our review of the seized rugs revealed less than 30 percent bore markings or tags from the Hubbell Trading Post or WNPA (Attachment 17). Yee said it was his decision that accountants would accompany him and executing the search at Malone's residence (See Attachment 14). According to the were to search for the consignment ledgers and help identify those items on consignment or WNPA property (Attachment 18). The day after the search, Yee said he decided to have drive the WNPA van full of seized evidence to Flagstaff. Yee could not explain why NPS Ranger was not asked to drive the van since was available and the only other law enforcement officer present (See Attachment 14). When interviewed, said Yee obtained the search warrant for Malone's home and he reviewed the potential charges - theft from WNPA, NPS, and Navajo artisans (Attachment 19). said did not remember reviewing the alleged forged checks and did not assist in drafting the search recalled that originally, the purpose of the search warrant was for Yee to obtain the consignment ledgers and records at Malone's residence to corroborate allegations that Malone was stealing from WNPA. stated that, during the pre-search meeting held the night before the search, attendees did not discuss the details of how the search warrant would be executed. said Yee made the decision during this pre-search meeting that would help execute the warrant. said he believed the auditors' participation in the search was odd. did not recall anyone videotaping the search but said took photographs. He also remembered Yee calling Assistant U.S. Attorney and informing the team that if they saw several rugs in a stack with Hubbell Trading Post tags on them, they should seize the entire said he questioned Yee about the appropriateness of taking the entire stack and Yee confirmed that this was direction. We interviewed and both accountants for Devries and Associates, WNPA's accounting firm (also the accounting firm that performed periodic audits of the Hubbell Trading Post), who participated in the search (See Attachment 18). recalled initially receiving a telephone call from WNPA who told had obtained

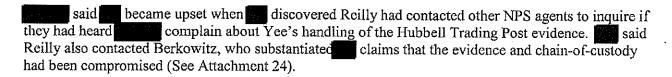
WNPA checks that might have been forged by Malone.





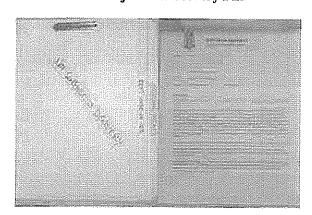
Chain of Custody for Seized Items





During his interview, Reilly acknowledged that there had been a breach in the chain of custody for evidence seized from Malone's home (Attachments 27, 28, and 29). Reilly said he had to "prod" Yee about chain of custody issues while both were at the U.S. Attorney's Office discussing the case with Assistant U.S. Attorney

During our review of NPS law enforcement office files at the Intermountain Region headquarters in Lakewood, CO, we discovered that Yee placed memorandum in a folder labeled "NOT SUBJECT TO DISCOVERY FILE (Attachment 30)."



Not Subject to Discovery File

During our investigation, we also found that evidence stored in Lakewood, CO, was inaccurately documented as to whether it was at NPS offices in Santa Fe, NM, or in Lakewood, CO, (Attachment 31). Additionally, we found that numerous chain-of-custody record forms were incomplete and had not been updated to reflect the numerous locations where the evidence was being stored and who was accountable for its security (Attachment 32).

In a room next to Yee's office at the Intermountain Region, we discovered five boxes of documents containing Hubbell Trading Post financial records; Malone's personal financial records; his personal property, including his driver's license and phone cards; and \$10,577 in cash and checks that Yee said had been returned to Malone. Yee was also unable to produce Evidence Item #R-26, which NPS had identified as "cash," and he was unable to produce the documentation as to its disposition.

NPS Work Space (also known as the "War Room") for the Malone Investigation

Prior to his interview with us, Yee sent a memorandum to his supervisor regarding the seized evidence mentioned above (Attachment 33). In the memorandum, Yee stated that he believed the evidence was no longer considered evidence on October 5, 2006, and added the following:

"[It] was my understanding that the investigation had concluded, prosecution declined,

even though a formal letter of declination had as of yet been issued, with the majority of the evidence, rugs and jewelry from WACC, already long before returned to Malone, making R/29,R/39,R/43, H22, W9, W12, V1, no longer evidence and subject to a strict chain of custody, they were maintained in the case file room for safekeeping, which is as secure as the storage/evidence room."

Agent's Note: The case was not declined until January 4, 2007.

NPS agents did not conduct an accurate and complete inventory with photo-documentation of items seized at the time of the search. The copy of the search warrant and receipt left at the Malone residence at the conclusion of the search contained only rough estimates and general descriptions of the property seized (Sce Attachment 12). NPS agents did not complete the inventory of the seized property until several months later, and they did not provide Malone with a copy of that inventory until July 13, 2006, when some items were returned. NPS returned additional property to Malone on March 1, 2007.

When interviewed, Malone said NPS never provided him with a receipt or inventory for the cash seized from his residence (See Attachment 20). He said many of the weavers, jewelers, and other artisans had been deprived for years of the consignment items that had been stored in his home and subsequently seized and retained by NPS.

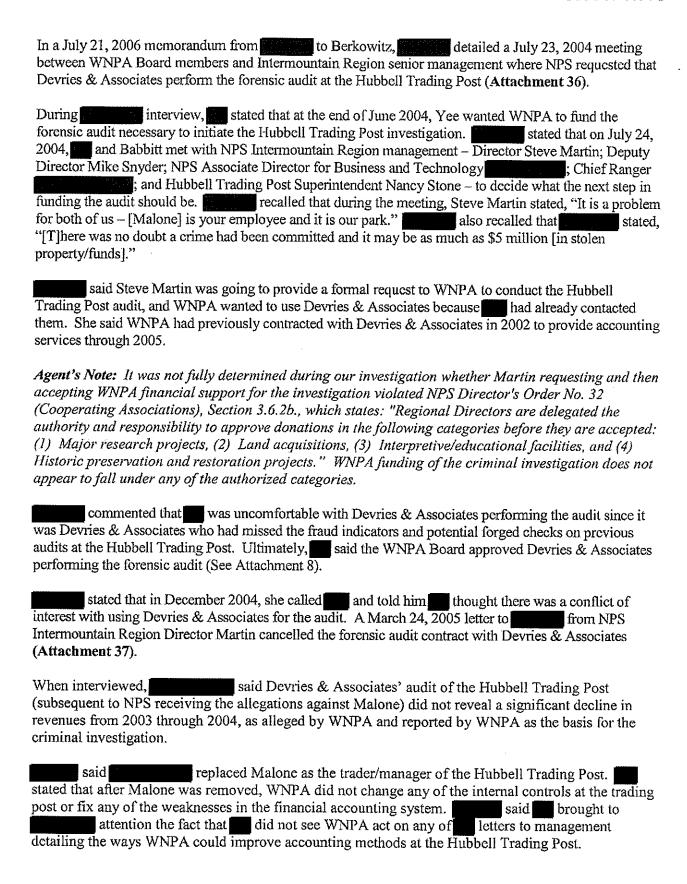
During his interview, Yee was unable to explain why cash, checks, and other items were not properly documented on chain-of-custody records and were missing until found during this investigation (See Attachment 14). He commented that NPS did not have the staff or training to conduct an investigation such as the Malone case.

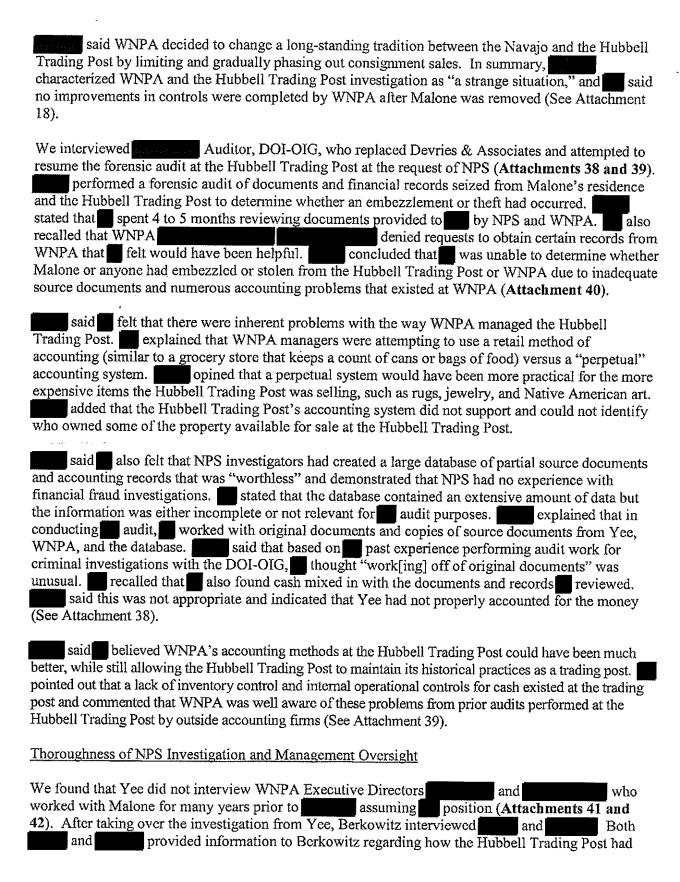
Audit by Devries & Associates, Accounting Firm Retained by WNPA

We found that WNPA contacted Devries & Associates in May 2004 to perform a forensic audit at the Hubbell Trading Post, subsequent to NPS receiving the allegations against Malone. This forensic audit was to commence in early June 2004 and be completed by the end of the month. While Devries & Associates initiated the audit, the work was never completed, and their contract with WNPA was officially ended on March 24, 2005.

NPS Special Agent-in-Charge Reilly stated that he had instructed Yee not to request Devries & Associates to conduct the forensic audit at the Hubbell Trading Post and to instead consult with the U.S. Attorney's Office regarding the issue (See Attachment 29). Reilly said he felt there would be a conflict of interest in using Devries & Associates because the company was the accounting firm WNPA normally used and had been performing regular audits at the Hubbell Trading Post for several years. Reilly also said he was not aware that a contractual arrangement between WNPA and Devries & Associates existed.

Former NPS Intermountain Region Director Steve Martin said he believed it was appropriate for Devries & Associates to conduct the audit as long as NPS special agents provided guidance (Attachment 34). According to Martin was to formally request that Devries & Associates conduct the audit (Attachment 35). A contract was established between WNPA and Devries and Associates to perform the forensic audit on or about July 30, 2004.





been previously managed, the type of work WNPA management allowed Malone to perform at the trading post, and some of the internal dynamics and personal relationships within the Hubbell Trading Post and WNPA. They provided information that revealed WNPA had been aware of some of Malone's unorthodox business practices and had allowed them to occur. Stated that former WNPA management had allowed Malone to run the Hubbell Trading Post and conduct his own trading and collecting, using his residence as an extension of the trading post to work and sell trading post items.

Our interviews with Hubbell Trading Post Superintendent Nancy Stone and Steve Getzwiller, a private trader, Sonoita, AZ, yielded the same general comment that NPS did not conduct a thorough investigation (Attachments 43 and 44). Berkowitz also interviewed Stone and Getzwiller (Attachments 45 and 46).

Stone said she believed the NPS investigation was "a rush to judgment" and that NPS "wanted to find fault." She said WNPA and NPS "never foresaw the implications to NPS, WNPA, and the reputation of the park." She described the investigation of Malone as a "wave uncontrolled" and stated that the investigation "was never objective." She said NPS agents never interviewed Malone (See Attachment 43).

During his interview with the OIG, Getzwiller reviewed two reports summarizing his previous interviews with NPS agents – one authored by NPS Special Agent in August 2004 and the other by Berkowitz in February 2006. Getzwiller stated that had not included in the report certain information he had provided during his interview. He said the most important information left out was that he and Malone had used old Hubbell Trading Post tags to mark Malone's personal rugs, that Malone had quite an extensive personal collection of Navajo rugs and jewelry at his residence, and that Malone's trading practices did not, and were not supposed to, conform to standard procedures for sale of merchandise.

Getzwiller recalled that during his interview with set down his pencil after about 30 minutes "because he was not hearing what he wanted to hear." Getzwiller thought that the interview was not heading in the direction that wanted and that "was under pressure to find evidence to substantiate [the] NPS law enforcement investigation"

Berkowitz said he was not initially provided a copy of interview of Getzwiller from Yee and did not find out about the interview of Getzwiller or Stone until he personally interviewed them (Attachment 47). Berkowitz, once he was assigned the Hubbell Trading post case in November 2005, said he had to repeatedly ask Yee for interview reports and other documentation of Yee's investigative work. Agent's Note: We also had to repeatedly ask Yee for documents and items related to his investigation of Malone.

Berkowitz also alleged that the NPS interview report of Getzwiller did not contain information Getzwiller provided during his interview, explaining why Malone may have had Navajo rugs in his home with Hubbell Trading Post or WNPA tags on them. We found that the NPS agent who interviewed Getzwiller, did not include this information in his interview report, and Getzwiller alleged that he had provided this information to

In our interview with recalled interviewing Getzwiller at least two times (Attachment 48).

Agent's Note: We were only able to find one interview report of Getzwiller by When

questioned about the allegation that he excluded information from his interview reports of Getzwiller, said would not intentionally leave out information from an interview (Attachment 49).

Additionally, we could not locate an official case file documenting investigative activity or periodic case reviews by NPS law enforcement management. NPS could not provide essential documents during our investigation, including chain-of-custody records, interview reports, copies of subpoenas served, and search-warrant inventory records.

We interviewed NPS Intermountain Region Director Mike Snyder (Deputy Director during Yee's investigation), who voiced his concerns regarding how NPS law enforcement handled the investigation of Malone (Attachment 50). He expressed his support for the direct line of authority NPS law enforcement had in place, although he commented that the Hubbell investigation showed problems existed. Snyder said he felt that NPS investigators were not prepared or trained for a white-collar fraud investigation, and as a result, the Hubbell investigation was not conducted properly.

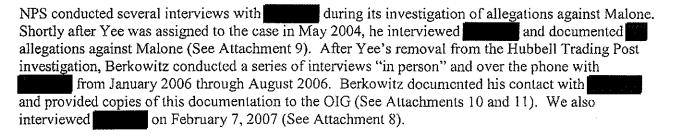
Snyder said the WNPA Board of Directors requested that he attend their meeting in December 2006, and he was "lambasted" for an investigation WNPA felt was mishandled by NPS. He explained that WNPA felt the investigation and the associated results were a "black eye" for WNPA. They were upset and felt NPS had turned a check fraud case into something much bigger and harder to prove. Snyder said he felt he had been "called on the carpet."

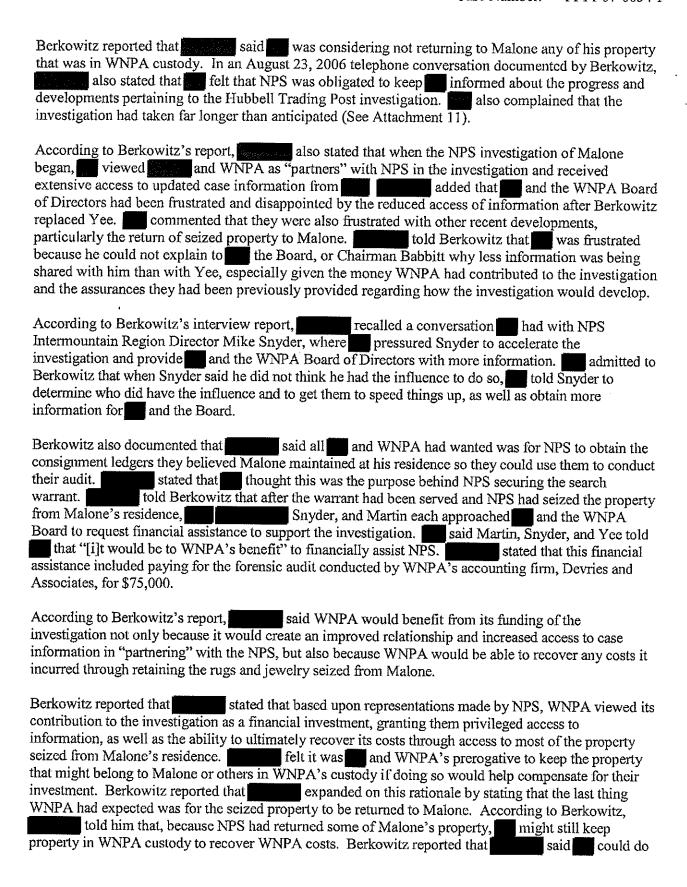
When interviewed, Reilly stated that he suggested to NPS management that Yee transfer the Hubbell investigation to Berkowitz (See Attachment 27). He said NPS agents and management involved with the case felt some pressure from NPS headquarters and NPS Region 6 regarding how quickly the investigation was progressing. Reilly also said some exculpatory information was being excluded from the investigation and a sense of arrogance or short-sightedness developed during the Hubbell investigation, especially with respect to Yee. Reilly added, "[T]hey were a little out of their element on the Hubbell Trading Post investigation."

On April 30, 2007, Assistant U.S. At	torney (AUSA) , District	of Arizona, declined criminal
prosecution of Yee. AUSA sai	d that	Ex. 5
(Attachment 51).	-	

WNPA Involvement in NPS Investigation

Our investigation revealed that NPS law enforcement and NPS Intermountain Region management allowed an almost open-door policy in regard to including WNPA in the investigation at the trading post. Yee stated that he received six to ten phone calls a week from regarding the case status and also spoke with WNPA Chairman Jim Babbitt about the investigation on at least one occasion (See Attachment 14).





this because doubted anyone would have receipts for seized property and therefore could not force WNPA to return the items. On August 25, 2006, Berkowitz reported that informed him of a conversation had a few weeks earlier with Snyder regarding the Hubbell Trading Post consignment property (that had been seized). According to Berkowitz, said Snyder questioned why was thinking about returning any of the consignment property and suggested that just keep it. any of the consignment property and suggested that just keep it. It is told Berkowitz that had responded to Snyder that could not keep the property because wanted WNPA to maintain a positive relationship with the park and the community. After Berkowitz informed inappropriate for Snyder to make that statement, asked that Berkowitz keep with Snyder "off the record." We interviewed and provided a background of the initial allegations (See Attachment 8). also stated that felt it was inappropriate for Yee and NPS to provide a significant amount of information to WNPA concerning the ongoing investigation. Agent's Note: We were not able to resolve some of the discrepancies in statements to Yee, Berkowitz, and us during our investigation because and WNPA declined to cooperate with further interviews or follow-up questions. said suggested that Yee talk to former WNPA executives and about how they managed Malone and the Hubbell Trading Post. recalled that was constantly frustrated that Yee did not follow advice on this. During our investigation, we also found that had prepared an extensive list of questions for Yee to use when they interviewed former WNPA senior managers and (Attachment 52). said Yee did not provide WNPA with any receipts or documentation for the records NPS had taken from the Hubbell Trading Post. According to Yee told to document expenses for WNPA costs (such as the cost of using Devries & Associates) and that the totals would be reviewed if restitution was awarded at the end of the investigation. stated that was not involved with transporting evidence from Flagstaff to Tucson, AZ, but commented that Scott Aldridge, WNPA Chief Operations Officer, assisted in returning the seized consignment items to their owners. added that this was very difficult because the consignment merchandise was "a mess." Agent's note: The items seized as a result of the search warrant at Malone's residence were kept by NPS as evidence for over 2 years. The warrant was served in June 2004, some of the property was returned on July 2006 and the remainder returned March 2007. stated that Steve Martin never guaranteed to the outcome of the investigation but that it perception that it would result in criminal charges. said that in May 2006, with Mike Snyder and recalled Snyder commenting, "It will be nice when all this is over - since you'll get your property back." said never expected that all of the seized property would be returned to Malone. said had called Snyder to find out if Malone had received an apology from NPS and Snyder told that Malone had not. said had heard a rumor that this occurred and was upset about it since believed Malone was guilty (See Attachment 8).

When we interviewed Mike Snyder, he said Steve Martin had spoken with and told that NPS would "shoulder the investigation but WNPA would need to do the same and pay for the auditors to conduct the forensic audit" (See Attachment 50). Snyder reiterated that he was unaware of anyone at NPS, including himself, providing WNPA with direct access to information regarding the ongoing Hubbell Trading Post investigation. Snyder commented that WNPA was frustrated with the investigation's lack of progress and that the money it had provided to NPS did not result in the expected return of merchandise.
Snyder stated that when he had breakfast with prior to the WNPA Board meeting in December 2006, said wanted him to tell the Board that WNPA should keep the evidence seized from Malone's residence as compensation for the money they had expended on the investigation. Snyder stated that he refused to tell the Board this and was surprised when we informed him that told OIG agents he had told to keep the seized items as compensation (See Attachment 50).
Interaction Between NPS and WNPA at the Trading Post
When interviewed, Nancy Stone, NPS Superintendent, Hubbell Trading Post, stated that WNPA seemed to ignore that the NPS mission for the trading post was to preserve the authentic art of trading and have the trading post remain a "living" historical site (See Attachment 43). She said she believed no other trader, aside from Malone, would have dealt with WNPA's constant interference. Stone said it was unfortunate that WNPA simply looked at the Hubbell Trading Post as their "cash cow."
Stone said she felt NPS allowed WNPA to take control of trading post operations and that NPS "should have stepped up and pushed back" because NPS's mission is to protect parks.
While the cooperative agreement with WNPA was not the focus of our investigation, our interviews of Intermountain Region Associate Director for Business and Technology, Intermountain Region Cooperative Association Coordinator and NPS National Coordinator for Cooperative Agreements revealed numerous areas of concern, including the following (Attachment 53, and See Attachments 22 and 23):
 The agreement with NPS and WNPA allows WNPA to determine the percentage of profits that it donates to NPS instead of NPS making that determination. WNPA determines how money should be used by NPS before it donates the money. Interpretative Support Accounts are set up and managed by WNPA, but the accounts and associated monies are available to NPS. NPS InterMountain Range was not tracking any of these accounts for the 65 NPS sites managed by WNPA until NPS's investigation of Malone. There is no straightforward policy dictated to cooperative associations and that needs to change so that they all operate under the same guidelines.
stated that role as the national coordinator for cooperative agreements was more of a compiling of statistics and financial reports from all of the cooperative associations and ensuring that annual reports and IRS forms were submitted to NPS. said has questioned some of the reports or documentation at times but explained that NPS regional management is also supposed to provide oversight on the cooperative agreements with the various associations.

stated that NPS is in the process of making revisions to Director's Order No. 32, which details

all of the procedures and specific guidelines regarding NPS's interactions with cooperating associations. Said the most important change to the Director's Order planned is that NPS will set the priorities and determine where funds from the revenues collected by the cooperating association are spent, rather than the association making those determinations for NPS.

SUBJECT(S)

Clyde Yee, NPS Special Agent

DISPOSITION

The U.S. Attorney's Office declined criminal prosecution of NPS Special Agent Clyde Yee

Ex. 5

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Copy of Public Law 89-148.
- 2. Cooperative Agreement between NPS and WNPA for Hubbell Trading Post, dated December 10, 1999.
- 3. Letter from AUSA to SAC Reilly July 21, 2005.
- 4. IMR spreadsheet documenting NPS investigative funds expended on Malone investigation.
- 5. NPS Interview Report of Bill Malone, dated February 28, 2006; April 19-21, 2006; June 15, 2006; and July 13, 2006.
- 6. Report of Investigation on Billy Gene Malone by SA Berkowitz, dated October 23, 2006.
- 7. E-mail from WNPA Counsel dated July 30, 2007.
- 8. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview dated February 7, 2007.
- 9. NPS Interview Report dated May 25, 2004.
- 10. NPS Interview Report dated January 10, 2006.
- 11. NPS Interview Report dated July 31 August 28, 2006.
- 12. Search Warrant for Malone's residence, dated June 8, 2004.
- 13. Affidavit for search warrant by SA Clyde Yee dated June 8, 2004.
- 14. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of SA Yee, dated April 17 and May 23, 2007.
- 15. NPS Interview Report of dated January 11, 2006.
- 16. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of dated April 18, 2007.
- 17. Memorandum from NPS SA on evidence, dated August 25, 2006.
- 18. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of and and and dated february 8, 2007.
- 19. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of dated March 12, 2007.
- 20. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of Bill Malone, dated January 10, 2007.
- 21. Global Cooperative Agreement between NPS and WNPA, dated March 7, 2005.
- 22. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of John Wessels, dated January 25, 2007.
- 23. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of the state of the s
- 24. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of SA dated February 5, 2007.
- 25. Fax from SA Yee to WACC dated August 31, 2004.
- 26. Memorandum from SA to SAC Reilly on evidence, dated October 4, 2004.
- 27. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of SAC Reilly, dated January 23, 2007.
- 28. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of SAC Reilly, dated January 24, 2007.
- 29. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of SAC Reilly, dated July 15, 2007.

30. Memorandum by SA on Chain of Custody, dated October 25, 2004. 31. Santa Fe Chain of Custody documents. 32. Chain of Custody documents (partial). 33. Memorandum by SA on Missing Evidence, dated February 5, 2007. 34. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of Steve Martin, dated April 19, 2007. 35. Letter from to Mari Devries requesting audit of Hubbell Trading Post. 36. Memorandum from to SA Berkowitz, dated July 21, 2006. 37. Memorandum from Martin to WNPA cancelling Devries' contract, dated March 24, 2005. 38. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of dated January 25, 2007. 39. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of dated January 31, 2007. 40. OIG Investigative Audit Summary, dated July 20, 2006. , dated February 21, 2006. 41. NPS Interview Report of 42. NPS Interview Report of dated January 17 & 18, 2006. 43. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of Nancy Stone, dated January 10, 2007. 44. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of Steve Getzwiller, dated February 6, 2007. 45. NPS Interview Report of Nancy Stone, dated February 2, 2006. 46. NPS Interview Report of Steve Getzwiller, dated February 12, 2006. 47. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Information from Berkowitz, dated November 7, 2007. 48. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of dated April 17, 2007. 49. NPS Interview of Getzwiller by SA dated August 8, 2004. 50. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of Mike Snyder, dated April 16, 2007. 51. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Telephonic Conversation with AUSA

for NPS, dated August 27, 2005.

, dated May 22, 2007.

April 30, 2007. 52. Questions prepared by

53. OIG Investigative Activity Report, Interview of