



Y-12 Insider Threat Case Study

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Insider Threat Case Study

Initial Issue Description

- On Tuesday, June 14, 2022, Consolidated Nuclear Security (CNS), Y-12 Incidents of Security Concern (IOSC) was notified of an off-site medical issue involving a Y-12 CNS badged employee. The event occurred at a local Oak Ridge grocery cafe. The existing relationship between the Oak Ridge Police Department (ORPD) and Y-12 IOSC prompted the notification to the Y-12 Operations Center (OC).

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Event Timeline

- July 2020 - Employee transfers from Bechtel National Inc. LLC (Houston, TX) to CNS Y-12
- August – October 2020 - Background screening and associated paperwork
- November 2020 – First contact involving Y-12 Protective Forces
 - Vehicle had expired tags. It was extremely cluttered.
 - Employee was told to organize car to facilitate PF visual searches at site entry portals.
 - IOSC was notified of the vehicle issue in addition to employee's constant presence in the JCC cafeteria working via laptop.
 - IOSC asked for a Counter Intelligence (CI) cursory check.
 - CI check showed nothing security significant.
 - IOSC referred issue to employee's management for resolution.
- May 2021 – Clearance investigation begins
 - Letter of Interrogatory
- August 2021 – Q-Clearance granted



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Event Timeline

- April 2022 – Employee takes laptop to Helpline for repairs
 - IT contacts IOSC regarding suspicious nature of damage and intentional removal of Y-12 and government stickers
- April 2022 – IOSC conducts forensic examination of laptop
 - IOSC conducted forensics of Mr. Benjamin’s CNS account.
 - Forensics showed email correspondence with other companies concerning employment opportunities.
 - Emails revealed employee had a job interview conducted in Wyoming during which the employee was charging to CNS Telework charge codes.
 - IOSC refers to Labor Relations for follow-up.
- May 2022 – Employee receives discipline for violating policy on teleworking and inaccurate time charging



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Event Timeline

- June 2022 – Employee has medical event at a local Oak Ridge grocery café
 - Oak Ridge Methodist Medical Center contacts Y-12 OC at 1850 hrs, who in-turn, makes notification to IOSC.
 - Subsequent phone calls were made between ORPD and IOSC.
 - The initial report is that the employee is deceased.
 - ORPD delivers employee's badge, three laptops (one is Government Furnished Equipment [GFE]), six personal cellular telephones, various personal papers, and two passports (new and expired).
 - No other items of interest to IOSC are found.
 - IOSC makes follow on notifications, to include CI, of employee's death.
- Forensic efforts on laptops and cell phones
- Accurint Database
- Update from ORMMC
 - Employee not deceased but on life-support. Prognosis not favorable.



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Event Timeline

- Evidentiary Discoveries
 - Employee's supervisor performed a cursory search of employee's Limited Area (LA) cubical in the JCC and finds one personal cell phone.
 - Based on controlled article in LA, IOSC opens inquiry and attempts forensics on the personal cell phone which is password protected.
 - Y-12 Personnel Security provides employee's eEquip information that shows four name variations.
 - IOSC conducts search of cubical
 - IOSC finds six additional personal cell phones during search of JCC LA cubicle (this discovery makes a total of 7 cell phones found in his cubicle in the JCC Limited Area and 6 that were handed over to IOSC by ORPD and were in his personal effects on the night of his choking incident).
 - IOSC also finds paperwork consisting of legal documents depicting issues with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in addition to NA-74 correspondence requesting multiple eEquip clarifications.
 - IOSC interviews employee's supervisor.
 - IOSC request Argus and Lenel reports to determine times, dates, and areas of access.
 - IOSC sees no indication that employee was taking up residence in the JCC cube (no pillow, cot, blanket, or any Lenel reader data suggesting that he was coming in and out of his office during off-shift hours).

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Event Timeline

- FBI Notified
- Y-12 CI POC notifies chain-of-command
- June 17, 2022 – ORMMC notifies IOSC that employee pronounced deceased at 1800 hours.

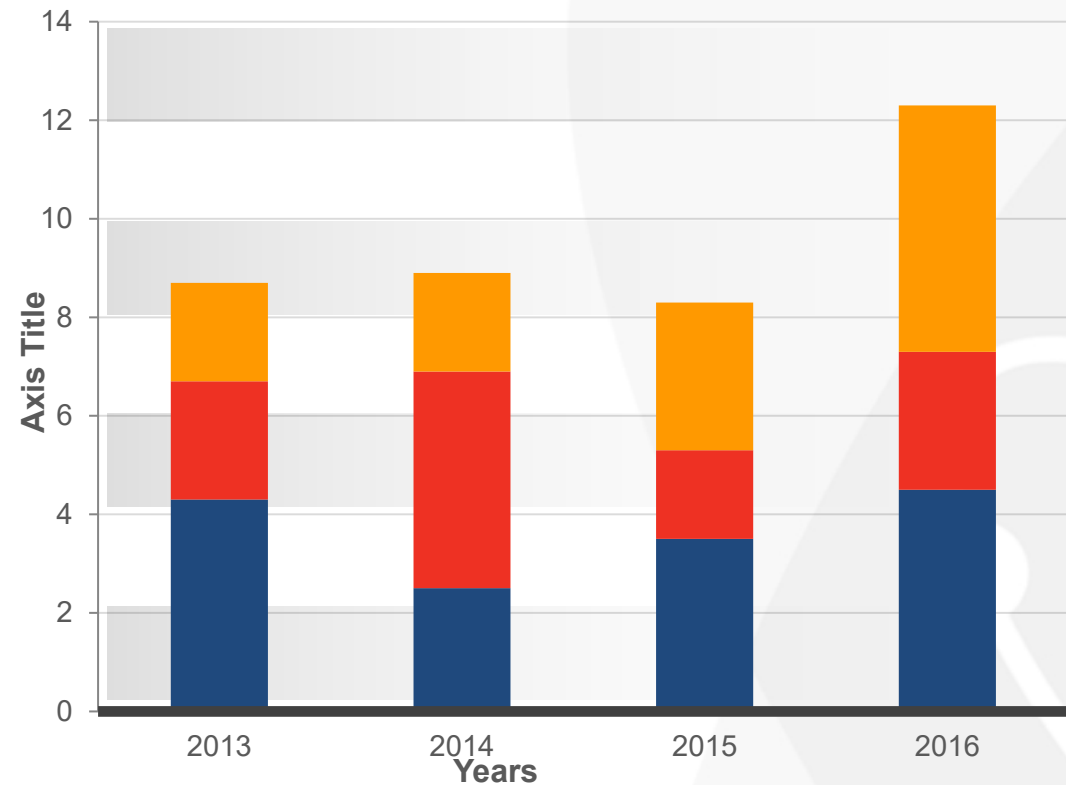


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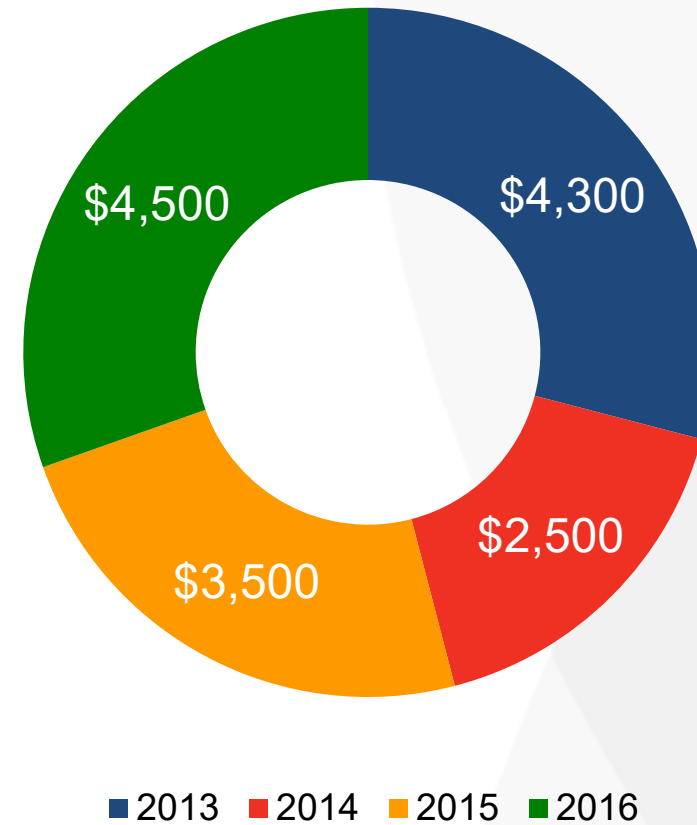
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Sample Table

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