Awareness in Action: Case Study

Who could become an insider threat? Anyone with authorized access to U.S. Government resources who uses that access - either wittingly or unwittingly - to harm national security. Insider threats can have far reaching consequences and impacts on national security.

NCIS Special Agent John Beliveau
- Arrest date: September 2013
- Age at arrest: 44
- Age at conviction: 47
- Pled guilty to conspiracy to commit bribery.
- Sentenced to 12 years in federal prison and payment of $20 million in restitution.

Espionage Indicators
- **Mishandling of Classified Documents:** Deleting incriminating emails, masking email accounts, and an abnormal transfer of funds. Intentionally leaked investigative files.
- **Personal Conduct:** Mental health conditions, to include depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, and alcoholism.

What Happened
- Between 2008 and 2013, Beliveau provided Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) investigative reports to the subject of an investigation to assist the subject in the avoiding criminal charges.
- He deliberately leaked the names of cooperating witnesses, reports of witness interviews, and plans for future investigative activities.
- He intentionally covered up involvement by deleting incriminating emails.
- He accepted $30,000 in cash, several lavish trips and dinners, and prostitute services in payment for his classified information.
- His actions were part of a larger corruption case involving hundreds of millions of dollars in Navy contracts.

Impacts
- NCIS investigations were compromised endangering Navy personnel and resources, including a case involving $7 million in fraudulent payments.

Learn More
This case study examined a real-life insider threat. Your awareness is key to protecting our national security from insider threats like this one. Visit the Center for Development of Security Excellence’s website (http://www.cdse.edu) for additional case studies, information, materials, and training or go directly to the Insider Threat Tool Kit at http://www.cdse.edu/toolkits/insider/index.php

If you SEE something, SAY something.