

Response from Shelby Hallmark, Director, Office of Worker's Compensation Programs, U.S. Department of Labor:

1. What contacts, if any, has the Labor Dept had with Tangiers International?

Tangiers International has been referred to the Office of Inspector General for investigation.

Following is background on the issue: Several members of the Department of Labor's (DOL) staff met Christopher Catrambone, Managing Director of Tangiers International (Tangiers) at the Loyola School of Law DBA Conference in October 2008. Mr. Catrambone made a presentation at that conference on the company's efforts on behalf of insurance carriers in providing urgent medical care in Iraq, and other overseas locations.

In January 2009 DOL learned that Tangiers' website claimed that "The U.S. Department of Labor used Tangiers International as the primary DBA provider and Third Party Administrator (TPA), where they handle dozens of claims each month." Since this was not true, the Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation sent an email to Mr. Catrambone to ask that Tangiers International immediately remove this statement from its website and to post a retraction. The following day, Mr. Catrambone responded to the DOL email to confirm that it had erroneously posted the statement about DOL using its services. The reference to DOL was removed from the Tangiers website that day.

In late July 2009, DOL learned of the video Mr. Miller identified in which a Tangiers investigator claimed to be a DOL employee and carried a DOL ID. (We were unable to view the video online.) An email was sent the same day to Mr. Catrambone asking for an explanation, since Tangiers has no authority to make such claims or use DOL's name or indicia on its badges. He called from Malta within 10 minutes of the email. He explained that the ID was in a format approved by the US State Department, but that their ID cards have been revised and Tangiers no longer uses this form of ID. He also said that the investigator in question no longer worked for Tangiers. Mr. Catrambone confirmed this information in an email, in which he stated: "The image depicts our 2008 Type"C" Tangiers ID Card with the following: Tangiers Logo, International Investigator, Criminal/Civil Investigator and Division of Loss/Name of Investigator. This card was approved for use by the US Embassy in Malta in 2007-2008."

2. Does the Labor Dept have, or has it had in the past, any kind of contract with Tangiers International?

No.

3. Does the Labor Dept. designate or in any way allow Tangiers International employees to represent or act as an agent of the Labor Dept?

No.

- 4. If the Labor Dept. has no relationship with Tangiers, what, if anything, is the department doing to investigate whether Tangiers employees are representing themselves as government agents?**

See #1 above.