

Selection.com President says background checks could have prevented national security breach

Research shows that the current national security breach, experienced by leaks at the NSA could have been prevented with accurate background checks.

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A 2011 re-investigation of Edward Snowden's background check may have been faulty, Office of Personnel Management Inspector General Patrick McFarland told Congress. Snowden is a former National Security Agency contract employee who leaked details of a top-secret spying program at NSA.

The company originally tasked with conducting background checks for candidates for employment or contract work at the NSA promised to perform background checks prior to employment and then a secondary background check later on to ensure that no details were overlooked.

"We do believe that there may be some problems" with the secondary background check, McFarland said when Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., asked him whether he had concerns about whether Snowden's background check may not have been carried out in an appropriate or thorough manner. McFarland was testifying before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs subcommittee on the federal workforce, which Tester chairs.

McFarland said that the company that handles 45% of the federal government's contracted background checks conducted the 2011 secondary



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background check on Snowden. Later that year, McFarland's office began investigating the company for contract fraud. That investigation is still ongoing.

James Boeddeker, president of a criminal background search firm, says that it's important to be careful when selecting a background check company. "Who's checking the background check companies? Experience in the industry is the surest sign of a reliable background check company."

Selection.com has been a leading provider of background checks in Cincinnati and across the country for over 20 years. Thousands of clients across the country trust them with their business. Since they started, Selection.com has screened tens of millions of job applicants, employees, contractors and tenants.

"Right now we're seeing one of the biggest security breaches in our country's history- and it's all because a background check company could not be trusted," says Boeddeker. "As a veteran-owned business, and as a veteran myself, this security breach is a double-scandal to me."

For more information or for an interview, contact Carl Brown at 513-522-8764.

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