



Office of the Chief  
Records Officer for the  
U.S. Government

***Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.***

September 23, 2025

Mary Beth Roberts  
Agency Records Officer  
Bureau of Trust Funds Administration  
4400 Masthead N.E.  
Albuquerque NM, 87109

Dear Ms. Roberts:

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) acknowledges receipt of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) report regarding the unauthorized disposition of Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA) Trust Operations records.

According to the report, four BTFA laptop computers were received over a couple of days, at the DOI Office of the Chief Information Office Desktop Support located in Lakewood, CO. At the same time, several computers from other bureau offices arrived for wiping and disposal. BTFA's investigation revealed the C: drive contents from the laptop of a separated high-level BTFA official was inadvertently wiped, instead of imaged, when placed among computers scheduled for wiping and sanitization on May 2, 2025.

NARA understands that following the sanitization of the laptop, the C: drive was forensically reviewed by security revealing that the C: drive was blank, and any deleted records could not be recovered. Consequently, while BTFA cannot confirm whether any records existed on the C: drive prior to this incident, BTFA has longstanding established policies that instruct staff to only store electronic files on designated data drives or external storage rather than the local C: drives. Additionally, upon the former employee's separation from the agency, the clearance official confirmed that agency records maintained by the former employee were secured. To prevent potential future loss of records, computers requiring different actions will be kept in different areas in the Desktop Support office.

Based on this information, the reporting requirements of 36 CFR 1230.14 have been met, and NARA considers this matter closed. I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact the Records Management Oversight and Reporting Program by email at [UnauthorizedDisposition@nara.gov](mailto:UnauthorizedDisposition@nara.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Fischer". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "William" and last name "Fischer" clearly legible.

WILLIAM FISCHER  
Chief Records Officer  
for the U.S. Government (Acting)

Cc:  
Clarice Julka  
Acting DOI Records Officer