

The Timeline on the May 3 Theft of Veterans' Data

May 3, 2006	VA employee's home is burglarized. The data analyst routinely had taken home sensitive data since 2003. The employee notified the local police department about the burglary.
May 10, 2006	A VA inspector general staff member at a routine meeting overhears conversation about the burglary and that VA files may have been stolen.
May 11, 2006	The IG staffer files a written report with his supervisor after gathering additional information.
May 12, 2006	IG initiates a criminal investigation, beginning efforts to identify and interview the burglarized employee.
May 15, 2006	IG interviews the burglarized employee. The employee tells IG that he believes several electronic files containing veterans' data stored on his home computer may have been stolen. He says he believes the data included the names, birthdates, and social security numbers for about 26.5 million veterans.
May 16, 2006	VA Secretary James Nicholson learns of the theft. IG meets with local police who had been investigating the incident since May 3 in relation to a series of burglaries in the same neighborhood.
May 17, 2006	IG notifies the FBI and an assistant US attorney.
May 22, 2006	Nicholson informs members of Congress and makes public announcement.