

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY



OCTOBER 2023 - MARCH 2024



#### REPORT AVAILABILITY

The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community posts reports, news releases, and information about ongoing work on the Intelligence Community Inspector General website at **www.DNI.gov/ICIG**.

Information about the federal Inspector General community is available through the Inspectors General Network at **www.lGnet.gov**.

Public reports from all federal Inspectors General who are members of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency are available at **www.Oversight.gov**.

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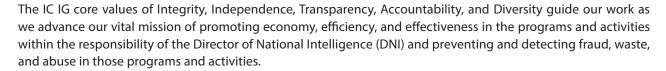
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REPORT SUSPECTED FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE

## MESSAGE FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

On behalf of the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG), I am pleased to present the *Semiannual Report to Congress* summarizing the office's objectives, achievements, and activities from October 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.



In addition to audits, inspections, investigations, reviews, evaluations, Hotline matters, and other activities conducted during this period, IC IG continued quarterly engagements with the DNI and senior Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) staff on open IC IG recommendations. These engagements promote even greater cooperation, transparency, and accountability. Since establishing these meetings with the DNI and senior ODNI staff in August 2022, the IC IG has closed 70 recommendations from 22 IC IG reports issued between November 2015 and November 2023. Due to ODNI's efforts, IC IG has closed 77 percent of recommendations made since fiscal year 2016. The IC IG appreciates the DNI's continued focus on these matters.

The IC IG also appreciates Congressional interest in and support for our important work. During this reporting period, I had the opportunity to directly engage with Congress several times. Most recently, I met with staff of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to discuss IC IG resources and workforce posture, along with IC IG's work planning process, ongoing work, and future work. These positive and productive engagements reinforced IC IG's and Congress's mutual commitment to oversight. I have extended a similar offer to engage with the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, as well as the Defense Appropriations Subcommittees of the Senate and House, on these topics. Additionally, IC IG staff had numerous in-person engagements with Congress. Congressional and IC IG staff discussed IC IG's planned, ongoing, and completed work across all mission areas. The IC IG briefed Congress on matters of "urgent concern" identified by whistleblowers and provided the congressional intelligence committees with an overview of IC IG's processes for processing whistleblower complaints while protecting the confidentiality of whistleblowers.



The IC IG continues to work closely and collaboratively with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, Five Eyes Intelligence Oversight and Review Council, and others.

I am grateful to the IC IG team and to those that we work with throughout the Inspector General and Intelligence Communities who make the work captured in this report possible. As a result, we are strengthening the Intelligence Community in service to the Nation.

#### THOMAS A. MONHEIM

Inspector General of the Intelligence Community

APRIL 30, 2024



#### **AUTHORITY**

In 2010, Congress amended the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq.) to establish the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. This establishment is codified at 50 U.S.C. § 3033. The IC IG has the statutory authority to independently conduct, and issue reports on, audits, inspections, investigations, and reviews of programs or activities within the Director of National Intelligence's responsibility and authority. The IC IG is authorized to receive and investigate complaints or information from whistleblowers, and to conduct independent reviews of Intelligence Community matters and whistleblower reprisal claims.

Congress also established the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum (the Forum) under 50 U.S.C. § 3033. The IC IG serves as the Chair and Forum members consist of the statutory and administrative Inspectors General with oversight responsibility for an Intelligence Community element. The Forum provides a venue for coordination and collaboration regarding matters of common interest, questions of jurisdiction, and access to personnel and information that may affect more than one Office of Inspector General.



#### OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

#### **MISSION**

The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community's mission is to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness and to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in the programs and activities within the Director of National Intelligence's responsibility and authority.

#### **VISION**

A premier workforce that exemplifies core values and strengthens the Intelligence Community and Nation.

#### **CORE VALUES**

#### **INTEGRITY**

Do the right thing for the right reasons and the right way.

#### **INDEPENDENCE**

Do our jobs impartially without fear or favor.

#### **TRANSPARENCY**

Foster trust and confidence through openness and honesty.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Be responsible at every level in every direction.

#### **DIVERSITY**

Respect and actively leverage the full range of talent on our team.

#### OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

#### STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community is appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. By statute, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community must be nominated based on integrity, experience, and demonstrated ability, and without regard to political affiliation. Likewise, the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) must perform its duties with independence, objectivity, and impartiality. Accordingly, the IC IG's findings and conclusions are not influenced by bias or external interference; they are based on the facts and applicable law and in accordance with applicable standards for Offices of Inspector General.

The IC IG must perform its duties with independence, objectivity, and impartiality.



#### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to 50 U.S.C. § 3033(k)(1)(A), the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community shall, not later than October 31 and April 30 of each year, prepare and submit to the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) a classified and, as appropriate, an unclassified semiannual report summarizing the IC IG's activities during the immediately preceding six-month period ending September 30 and March 31, respectively.¹ Not later than 30 days after the date of the receipt of the report, the DNI shall transmit the report to the congressional intelligence committees, together with any comments the DNI considers appropriate.²

All IC IG inspection and investigation activities conform to standards adopted by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE). The IC IG conducts all audit activities in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards or other applicable professional standards.

During this reporting period, IC IG received adequate funding to fulfill its mission. The budget covered personnel services and general support, including travel, training, equipment, supplies, information technology support, and office automation requirements. Additional information is provided in the *Semiannual Report Classified Annex*. The IC IG also obtained access to all information relevant to the performance of its duties during the reporting period. For some data sets, IC IG did not have direct access to necessary information, but instead obtained information from data stewards. IC IG is exploring options for direct access to critical data sets in order to facilitate IC IG-authorized activities and better protect the identities of whistleblowers and subjects of IC IG investigations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The statute also requires IC IG to provide any portion of this report involving a component of a department of the United States Government to the head of that department.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The statute further requires the DNI to transmit to the committees of the Senate and of the House of Representatives with jurisdiction over a department of the United States Government any portion of the report involving a component of such department simultaneously with submission of the report to the congressional intelligence committees.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The IC IG employs a highly skilled, committed, and diverse workforce, including permanent employees (cadre), employees from other Intelligence Community elements on detail to the IC IG (detailees), and contractors. Additional personnel details are listed in the *Semiannual Report Classified Annex*.

The IC IG's senior leadership team comprises the Inspector General, Principal Deputy Inspector General, Counsel to the Inspector General, four Assistant Inspectors General, and the Director of the Center for Protected Disclosures.



#### STRATEGIC PLAN

The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community Strategic Plan 2023–2027 highlights IC IG leadership's dedication to the people, products, and partnerships of the organization. The plan provides a path to advance the IC IG mission, expand cross-community engagement, and align projects and resources to enhance and strengthen the ODNI and the Intelligence Community (IC). In 2023, the IC IG published its strategic plan on its public website for the first time.



To date, IC IG has completed 74 percent of the 78 strategic initiatives in its fiscal year (FY) 2023 strategic action plan and continues to make progress on the remaining initiatives.

During this reporting period, IC IG also developed a strategic action plan for FY 2024 to further define initiatives to advance the goals and objectives outlined in the *Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community Strategic Plan 2023–2027.* The FY 2024 strategic action plan includes 86 strategic initiatives.



#### STRATEGIC GOALS

One

Strengthen the foundation of the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community by recruiting, developing, and retaining a premier workforce and fostering a diverse, inclusive, collaborative, engaging, and professional environment.

Two

Conduct high-quality and timely audits, inspections, investigations, reviews, and other activities to improve the integration, economy, and efficiencies of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the broader Intelligence Community. Support and protect Intelligence Community personnel who engage in lawful whistleblowing activities.

Three

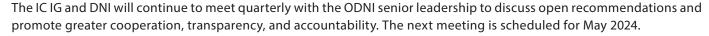
Enhance collaboration, coordination, and communication among Intelligence Community Offices of Inspector General, the Director of National Intelligence, Congress, and our partners and stakeholders.

#### PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH COOPERATION

In 2021, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) identified eight ongoing agency practices to enhance cooperation and accountability between Inspectors General and the heads of executive departments and agencies, to include "promptly respond[ing] to IG [Inspector General] reports to preclude lingering open recommendations" and "hold[ing] routine meetings to have candid discussions in a non-audit setting and maintain[ing] clear lines of communication between the appropriate IG officials and agency leadership."<sup>3</sup>

To enhance cooperation and accountability, the IC IG instituted quarterly meetings with the DNI and senior ODNI staff beginning in August 2022 to discuss open IC IG recommendations. A November 2023 meeting focused on open recommendations related to ODNI's financial statements and the Intelligence Community Foreign Language Program, and a February 2024 engagement focused on recently completed and ongoing IC IG work.

Holding quarterly meetings with the DNI and senior ODNI staff has enabled the IC IG to close most of its oldest open recommendations.<sup>4</sup> Specifically, it has closed 70 recommendations from 22 IC IG reports issued between November 2015 and November 2023. Due to ODNI's efforts, IC IG has closed 77 percent of IC IG recommendations made since FY 2016.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Office of Management and Budget, Memorandum M-22-04, Promoting Accountability through Cooperation among Agencies and Inspectors General (December 3, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Six of the IC IG's oldest open recommendations were from the FY 2016 Financial Statement Audit. The IC IG contracted with an independent public accounting firm to conduct the FY 2022 Financial Statement Audit. In the course of the audit, the independent public accounting firm developed updated and more targeted recommendations that had the same intent as the FY 2016 recommendations. These new recommendations replaced the aged recommendations.















## INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

On March 27, 2024, the IC IG issued *Capstone Report: The Intelligence Community's Top Management and Performance Challenges for Fiscal Year 2023*, summarizing the IC's shared management and performance challenges during FY 2023. In accordance with the Reports Consolidation Act of 2000 (31 U.S.C. § 3516(d)), federal agencies' Inspectors General must prepare a report summarizing the most serious management and performance challenges their agencies face, and briefly assess their respective organization's progress in addressing those challenges.

The IC IG considered systemic challenges identified in the management and performance challenges reports produced by the Inspectors General from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), and National Security Agency (NSA) to prepare the consolidated classified capstone report that identifies the most significant shared challenges faced by the CIA, DIA, NGA, NRO, NSA, and ODNI. Identification of an issue does not necessarily denote significant deficiencies or lack of attention on an agency's part. However, it does suggest additional and continued management attention is needed to effectively mitigate the risks associated with these challenges to IC elements' ability to effectively execute their core missions.

#### IC MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED

The IC faces several challenges. The capstone report identifies ten challenge areas sorted under four themes: Technology Risks to the Organization; Resource Planning and Management; Resilience and Readiness; and Agility and Adaptability. The following graphic outlines these challenge areas.

FY 2023 Top Management and Performance Challenge Areas (not presented in order of importance):



#### TECHNOLOGY RISKS TO THE ORGANIZATION

- 1.1. Information Security Controls
- 1.2. Technology Modernization



#### RESOURCE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- 2.1. Acquisitions and Contract Management
- 2.2. Financial Management



#### **RESILIENCE AND READINESS**

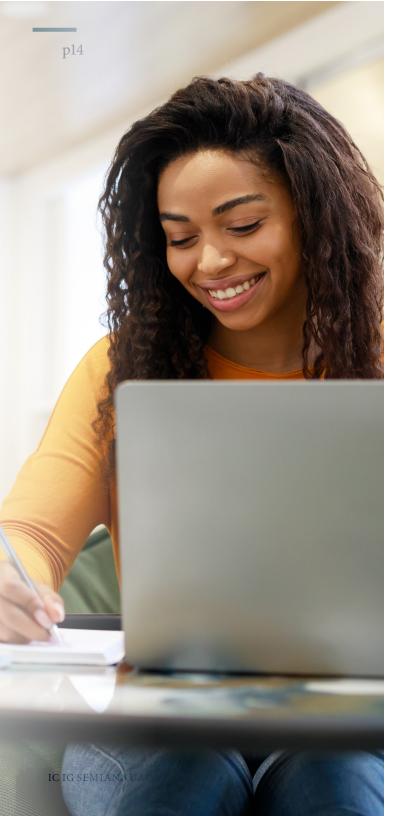
- 3.1. Enterprise and Mission Resilience
- 3.2. Human Capital Management
- 3.3. Insider Threats



#### AGILITY AND ADAPTABILITY

- 4.1. Adapting to Emerging Threats and New Requirements
- 4.2. Ensuring Competitive Advantage
- 4.3. Strategic Partnerships

The IC IG's capstone report is published in full in the Semiannual Report Classified Annex.



# Droducts

AUDIT DIVISION

INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS DIVISION

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

MISSION SUPPORT DIVISION

CENTER FOR PROTECTED DISCLOSURES

IC IG HOTLINE METRICS

COUNSEL TO THE INSPECTOR GENERAL



The Audit Division's mission is to conduct independent and objective audits and reviews of ODNI programs and activities, including audits required by law. Audit Division activities improve business practices to better support the IC's mission; promote the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of programs and operations throughout ODNI and the IC; and help reduce fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement. Audit work focuses on information technology and security, acquisition policies and practices, project management, business practices, human capital, personnel security, and financial management. Auditors assess whether programs are achieving intended results and whether organizations are complying with laws, regulations, and internal policies in carrying out programs. Audit recommendations and engagements inform ODNI management's efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ODNI and IC programs. The Audit Division collaborates with other federal agencies and departments to conduct joint reviews of IC programs and activities, perform peer reviews that assess quality controls, and discuss and address relevant topics of importance to the Inspector General community.

During the reporting period, the Audit Division completed four projects.



#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

## AUD-2020-001: Audit of Integrity and Use of Security Clearance Data Reported to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (November 2023)

On November 14, 2023, the Audit Division reported on the results of its audit of ODNI's integrity and use of security clearance data reported to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. The DNI, as the Security Executive Agent, is responsible for assuring the quality, timeliness, consistency, and integrity of national security vetting practices. Congress and the Security Executive Agent use data concerning security clearance processing timeliness to inform decisions integral to overseeing the effectiveness of the security clearance process and reducing the security clearance backlog. Our audit found that multiple IC elements did not capture, document, or report accurate security clearance processing timeliness information. In addition, IC elements did not calculate processing timeliness in a consistent manner. However, subsequent to our field work, the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC) issued additional guidance to the IC elements to improve the accuracy of security clearance processing timeliness information. NCSC also revamped internal procedures for validating and compiling information received from IC elements.

Based on these actions, we did not issue recommendations to NCSC. Additional details may be found in the Semiannual Report Classified Annex.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Enterprise and Mission Resilience
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Policies and Procedures
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Recruit, Develop, and Retain a Talented and Diverse Workforce that Operates as a United Community



#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

## AUD-2023-004: Fiscal Year 2023 Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Financial Statements (November 2023)

The IC IG contracted with an independent public accounting firm to audit the ODNI's FY 2023 financial statements. The audit's objective was to provide an opinion on whether ODNI's financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The IC IG Audit Division oversaw the audit to ensure the independent public accounting firm performed in accordance with professional and auditing standards, OMB requirements, and the terms of the contract.

The independent public accounting firm disclaimed an opinion on the ODNI's consolidated financial statements because of the inability to conclude on the overall existence, completeness, and valuation of amounts reported in the financial statements related to expenses and property, plant, and equipment. Therefore, the audit does not contain an unqualified opinion on the financial statements.

This report had 3 findings, repeated or repeated the intent of 14 recommendations made in the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Financial Statements, and made 2 new recommendations.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Financial Management
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Financial Management
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

## AUD-2023-003: Office of the Director of National Intelligence Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (November 2023)

On November 14, 2023, the Audit Division reported on the results of its audit of ODNI's implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. § 1501 et seq.) (CISA). Under CISA, the Inspectors General of six federal departments (Commerce, Defense, Energy, Homeland Security, Justice, and Treasury) and ODNI, in consultation with the IC IG and the Council of Inspectors General on Financial Oversight, must jointly submit to Congress an interagency report on Executive Branch implementation of the Act over the most recent two-year period. The objective of the IC IG audit was to assess ODNI's actions taken during calendar years 2021 and 2022 to carry out CISA's requirements. Our audit found that ODNI's sharing of cyber threat indicators and defensive measures with IC elements has improved over the past two years, and efforts are underway to expand accessibility to information. In calendar years 2021 and 2022, ODNI and its information technology service provider made progress enhancing accessibility to cyber threat information for improved sharing of information with other federal agencies. In addition, we determined that ODNI and its service provider continue to implement cybersecurity information sharing requirements.

This report does not include any findings or recommendations. Additional details may be found in the Semiannual Report Classified Annex.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Information Security Controls
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Information Security and Management
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Deliver Interoperable and Innovative Solutions at Scale; Enhance Resilience



#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

## AUD-2023-002: Joint Report on the Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (December 2023)

On December 6, 2023, the Audit Division issued to Congress the biennial *Joint Report on the Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015* (6 U.S.C. § 1501 et seq.) for calendar years 2021 and 2022. IC IG also made a public version available on Oversight.gov for 2021 and 2022. The report consolidated results of the audits or evaluations from IC IG and the Offices of Inspector General (OIGs) of the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Energy, Homeland Security, Justice, and Treasury. The reviewed federal entities made progress enhancing accessibility to cyber threat information for improved information sharing with other federal entities. Sharing cyber threat indicators and defensive measures increases the amount of information available for defending systems and networks against cyber attacks. Additionally, efforts are underway to expand accessibility to information.

This report does not include any findings or recommendations. Additional details may be found in the Semiannual Report Classified Annex.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Information Security Controls
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Information Security and Management
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Deliver Interoperable and Innovative Solutions at Scale; Enhance Resilience



#### ONGOING PROJECTS

#### AUD-2023-006: Audit of the Integration of Artificial Intelligence within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence

In accordance with section 6721(b) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (division F of Public Law 117-263) (the FY 2023 IAA), the IC IG must conduct an audit to evaluate:

- The degree to which the element has implemented each of the provisions of title LXVII of the FY 2023 IAA (relating to emerging technologies);
- The efforts of such element to develop, acquire, adopt, and maintain artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities for the purpose of improving intelligence collection and analysis in a timely manner and the extent to which such efforts are consistent with the policies and principles described in section 6702(a)(2) of the FY 2023 IAA:
- Any administrative or technical barriers to the accelerated adoption of AI by such element; and
- The extent to which the DNI coordinates across the IC with the elements as stated in the FY 2023 IAA.

The objective of the audit is to determine if ODNI has implemented each of the provisions of title LXVII of the FY 2023 IAA. Additionally, this audit will determine the extent to which efforts of ODNI to develop, acquire, adopt, and maintain AI capabilities are consistent with the policies and principles outlined in the FY 2023 IAA, and whether there are any administrative or technical barriers to the accelerated adoption of AI.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the first quarter of FY 2025.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Information Security Controls
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Emerging Technology Risk Area
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Position the IC for Intensifying Strategic Competition; Deliver Interoperable and Innovative Solutions at Scale



#### AUD-2024-001: Fiscal Year 2024 Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Financial Statements

The IC IG contracted with an independent public accounting firm to perform the FY 2023 financial statement audit. The objective is to provide an opinion on whether ODNI's financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The IC IG Audit Division is providing oversight to ensure the independent public accounting firm performs in accordance with professional and auditing standards, OMB requirements, and the terms of the contract.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the first quarter of FY 2025.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Financial Management
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Financial Management
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



#### ONGOING PROJECTS

## AUD-2024-002: FY 2024 Independent Evaluation of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence Security Program and Practices Required by the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014

The Audit Division contracted with a firm to perform its annual independent evaluation of ODNI's information security program and practices required by 44 U.S.C. §§ 3551-3558 (commonly known as the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 or FISMA). The objective of the evaluation is to assess the effectiveness and maturity of ODNI's information security and practices. The evaluation will use the FY 2024 Inspector General FISMA reporting metrics developed by the OMB, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and CIGIE. The Audit Division will oversee the evaluation and verify the firm performs the evaluation in accordance with appropriate standards and the terms of the contract.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Information Security Controls
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Information Security and Management; Policies and Procedures; Resiliency and Readiness; Insider Threat Risk Area
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Deliver Interoperable and Innovative Solutions at Scale; Enhance Resilience



## AUD-2024-003: Review of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 for Fiscal Year 2023

The IC IG began its review of the ODNI's compliance with 31 U.S.C. §§ 3351-3358 (commonly known as the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 or PIIA). PIIA aims to improve efforts to identify and reduce government-wide improper payments. Agencies are required to identify and review all programs and activities they administer that may be susceptible to significant improper payments based on guidance provided by the OMB. PIIA directs agency Inspectors General to review payment integrity reporting for compliance and issue an annual report. The objective of this review is to determine whether the ODNI complied with PIIA for FY 2023.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the third quarter of FY 2024.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Financial Management
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Financial Management
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A

#### AUDIT DIVISION - RESEARCH PROJECTS

#### Research for the Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence Hiring Process

The IC IG is performing research that will lead to an audit of the ODNI hiring process. The IC IG identified this discretionary audit in its *Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Work Plan* citing ODNI senior leaders' concerns about hiring and retention. The preliminary objective of this audit is to determine if ODNI hiring processes are effectively and efficiently staffing vacancies within the ODNI. Specifically, whether (1) the ODNI is meeting its goals for filling vacancies and onboarding personnel; (2) processes and automation introduced in the information management system are achieving their intended effect; (3) hiring officials are selecting applicants in accordance with applicable law, policy, and standards; and (4) personnel participating in the hiring process are adequately trained. The research phase of this audit will identify points of contact to facilitate interviews and information requests, such as policies and procedures, organizational charts, performance metrics, and other relevant documentation.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the third quarter of FY 2025.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Human Capital Management
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Human Capital Management Risk Area
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Recruit, Develop, and Retain a Talented and Diverse Workforce that Operates as a United Community

#### Research for the Audits of Intelligence Community Compliance with Insider Threat Policy

The classified annex accompanying the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (division F of Public Law 117-263) directs the IC IG to conduct audits of IC elements' compliance with insider threat policies. The objective of this research project is to obtain a high-level understanding of each IC element's insider threat program before beginning the audits. During the research phase, the Audit Division will collect relevant policies, procedures, organizational charts, and other relevant documentation related to the IC elements' information technology architecture and networks.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the third quarter of FY 2024.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Insider Threats
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	d Insider Threat Risk Area
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A

#### SPECIAL TOPIC

#### **AUDIT DIVISION**

#### 2023 Intelligence Community Inspectors General Artificial Intelligence Symposium

In support of IC IG's strategic goal to "enhance collaboration, coordination, and communication among Intelligence Community Offices of Inspector General, the Director of National Intelligence, Congress, and our partners and stakeholders," IC IG hosted an Artificial Intelligence Symposium at the NGA for members of the CIA OIG, DIA OIG, IC IG, NGA OIG, NRO OIG, and NSA OIG on October 2, 2024. The IC IG designed the event to present select AI topics of interest and serve as a primer to the May 2024 Intelligence Community Inspectors General Conference. The symposium included three sessions centered around AI oversight, governance, and bias, and a panel discussion about IC IG's framework for the upcoming AI audits across IC elements and lessons learned from the Department of Defense (DoD) OIG and NSA OIG joint evaluation of AI integration at the NSA.



The U.S. Government Accountability Office provided insight into key practices to help ensure accountability and responsible use of AI, such as the degree of security needed, whether to buy or build the AI, and the desired technical competencies of the workforce. The U.S. Government Accountability Office encouraged symposium attendees to view managing AI across a life cycle of design, development, deployment, and monitoring.



ODNI briefed the Augmenting Intelligence Using Machines (AIM) initiative's current strategic goals and lines of effort using the portfolio data calls to address statutory reporting requirements and to identify investment areas, gaps, and potential duplication of efforts.

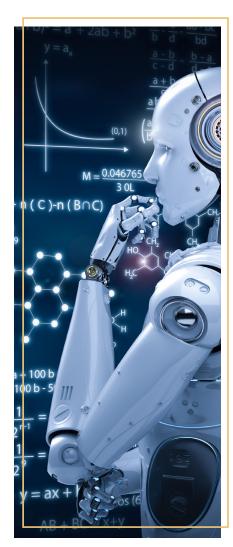


CIA OIG's Chief Information Officer invited the audience to think about bias in algorithms and its impact, both acceptable and unacceptable, on AI. CIA OIG then explained ways to investigate and mitigate bias through quality control and analysis, as well as testing and monitoring. CIA OIG advised AI users to consider the intended use of the AI and whether it is appropriate.



A joint DoD OIG and NSA OIG panel helped participants understand some of the left and right boundaries the joint evaluation team used when developing its project objective and assessing the results with limited-to-no criteria during the evaluation in 2021 and 2022. The panel then discussed the current congressionally directed action for audits of AI usage and implementation at the IC elements.

IC IG is developing a framework to enable a consistent execution of the AI audits that each IC element can replicate. The framework is based on the provisions required for implementation in the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 and uses information gathered during IC IG engagements with Congressional staff.



## Inspections and Evaluations

The Inspections and Evaluations Division enhances the IC IG's ability to conduct oversight of programs and activities within the DNI's responsibility and authority outside of traditional audit and investigative disciplines. The division performs systematic and independent inspections and evaluations of ODNI and IC elements and their components using tailored approaches for determining efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of agency operations, programs, or policies in accordance with CIGIE's *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation* (Blue Book). The Inspection and Evaluation Division's multidisciplinary staff conduct expedited management and program evaluations and respond to priority issues of concern to the ODNI, the IC, Congress, and the public.

The division issues inspection, evaluation, and special review reports that contain evidence-based findings and recommendations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of procedures and operations and to promote integration within the ODNI and across the IC.

During the reporting period, the Inspections and Evaluations Division completed two projects.



#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

#### INS-2023-006: Evaluation of the Administration of Polygraphs in the Intelligence Community (December 2023)

Pursuant to section 6603 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (division F of Public Law 117–263), the IC IG completed an evaluation of the administration of polygraphs that are needed in the IC to meet current annual personnel hiring requirements and reviewed the effectiveness of alternatives to the polygraph.

The report contained three recommendations. Additional details may be found in the Semiannual Report Classified Annex.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Policies and Procedures; Resiliency and Readiness
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



#### COMPLETED PROJECTS

## INS-2023-005: Evaluation of the Intelligence Community Elements' Use of Space Certified as a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility in the Continental United States (March 2024)

Pursuant to section 6607 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (division F of Public Law 117–263), the IC IG completed an evaluation on the utilization of space owned or sponsored by an IC element, located in the continental United States, that is certified as a sensitive compartmented information facility (SCIF) under IC or DoD policy. In June 2023, the Inspections and Evaluations Division provided a memorandum summarizing the results of the evaluation to the congressional intelligence committees and other appropriate congressional committees. The Inspections and Evaluations Division issued a supplemental report to the appropriate congressional committees in March 2024 to address issues identified during the evaluation that warranted additional analysis but could not be effectively reviewed within the congressionally directed 180-day timeline.

This report made one recommendation. Additional details may be found in the Semiannual Report Classified Annex.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Enterprise and Mission Resilience
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Policies and Procedures; Resiliency and Readiness
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



#### INS-2022-003: Special Review of Intelligence Community Support to Vetting of Persons from Afghanistan

The IC IG, in partnership with the DIA OIG and in coordination with the DHS OIG, continued its work on this special review of IC support to the vetting of persons from Afghanistan. This special review assessed compliance with the processes and procedures used by the IC for vetting persons seeking entry into the United States who were evacuated by the federal government from Afghanistan to overseas staging areas.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the third quarter of FY 2024.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Adapting to Emerging Threats and New Requirements
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Policies and Procedures; Resiliency and Readiness
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



#### INS-2022-005: Review of the Intelligence Community's Compliance with Analytic Tradecraft Standards

The Inspections and Evaluations Division is conducting a review of the IC analytic programs for compliance with analytic tradecraft standards. This evaluation will identify the IC elements with an analytic mission and determine whether those IC elements have a product evaluation program; and will assess the design and implementation of the programs to ensure compliance with analytic standards, including the ODNI's IC-wide program of periodic review and evaluation of analytic products.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the third quarter of FY 2024.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Policies and Procedures; Resiliency and Readiness
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



## INS-2023-007: Quick Review Inspection of the ODNI's Compliance with Executive Order 14035, *Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce*

The Inspections and Evaluations Division is conducting an inspection to assess ODNI's compliance with Executive Order 14035, *Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce* (June 25, 2021). The inspection will assess ODNI's internal Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) program, including the identification of ODNI-specific DEIA initiatives and performance measures. The division will review ODNI policies, plans, procedures, and strategies to ensure compliance with Executive Order 14035.

The IC IG anticipates completing this inspection in the third quarter of FY 2024.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Human Capital Management
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Resiliency and Readiness
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Deliver Interoperable and Innovative Solutions at Scale



## INS-2023-004: Joint Evaluation of the Relationship between the National Security Agency and the United States Cyber Command

Pursuant to the letter from the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate dated April 11, 2022, the IC IG, DoD OIG, and NSA OIG will evaluate the relationship between the NSA and the United States Cyber Command. The IC IG, in coordination with the DoD OIG and the NSA OIG, will produce a capstone report that aggregates the final reports.

The IC IG anticipates completing this review in the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



## INS-2024-005: Assessment of Overt Human and Open-Source Intelligence Collection Programs Established by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Intelligence and Analysis

Pursuant to section 7324(d) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (division G of Public Law 118–31), IC IG is conducting an assessment of Overt Human and Open-Source Intelligence Collection Programs of the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis. The assessment will include engagement with representatives from DHS, the IC and DoD Functional Managers for human intelligence and open source intelligence, and IC elements with similar programs.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the first quarter of FY 2025.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



#### INS-2024-006: Review of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Confidential Source Program

Pursuant to section 7323 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (division G of Public Law 118–31), the IC IG, in coordination with the Department of Justice (DOJ) OIG, will conduct a review of the policies and procedures governing the Federal Bureau of Investigation's confidential human source program and the Bureau's compliance with such policies and procedures, including the Attorney General Guidelines Regarding the Use of Confidential Human Sources and Intelligence Community Directive 304, *Human Intelligence*.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the second quarter of FY 2025.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



#### INS-2024-007: Joint Assessment of the Terrorist Watchlist

The IC IG Inspections and Evaluations Division is supporting the OIGs for the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, State, Treasury, and Defense on an assessment of the full implementation of the Terrorist Screening Dataset that the Terrorist Screening Center maintains.

The IC IG is coordinating with DOJ OIG on this review, and a completion date cannot be estimated at this time.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	N/A



## INS-2024-003: Joint Intelligence Community Inspector General and Department of Energy Office of Inspector General Evaluation of DOE Security Processes

The IC IG and Department of Energy OIG will conduct a joint evaluation of Department of Energy research security activities. The team will examine compliance with applicable IC and Department of Energy policies and will assess the effectiveness of research security programs at various Department of Energy sites.

The IC IG anticipates issuing this report in the second quarter of FY 2025.

FY 2023 IC Management and Performance Challenge(s):	Insider Threats
FY 2023 ODNI Management and Performance Challenge(s):	N/A
2023 National Intelligence Strategy Goal(s):	Enhance Resilience; Recruit, Develop, and Retain a Talented and Diverse Workforce that Operates as a United Community; Position the IC for Intensifying Strategic Competition



# Terrestigations

The Investigations Division conducts proactive and reactive criminal and administrative investigations, including those arising from complaints or information from any person concerning the existence of an activity within the authorities and responsibilities of the DNI constituting a violation of laws, rules, or regulations; or mismanagement, gross waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to the public health and safety. The division also plays a principal role in tracking, monitoring, and investigating unauthorized disclosures of classified information. The division identifies and reports internal control weaknesses that could render ODNI or other IC programs and systems vulnerable to exploitation, or that could be used for illicit activity.

The Investigations Division's unique statutory authority to investigate programs and activities within the authorities and responsibilities of the DNI allows it to partner with and assist other OIGs conducting investigations concerning IC programs and activities. In addition, the Investigations Division can coordinate and assist with the prosecution of criminal matters arising from the other intelligence agencies, including the CIA, DIA, NGA, NRO, and NSA. The IC IG's investigation activities conform to standards adopted by CIGIE.

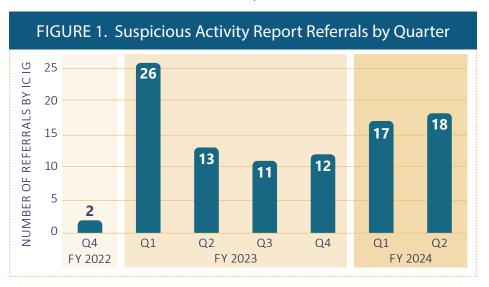
# INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Funds recouped during the reporting period: \$87,801.57

This reporting period, the Investigations Division continued its participation in engagements across the federal government to enhance its investigative tradecraft and further IC IG's mission. Members of the Investigations Division collaborated with CIGIE's Cyber Security and Civil Cyber Fraud Working Groups and attended monthly meetings with IC, DoD, and industry partners related to cyber-based cases and relevant technical security initiatives. In addition to providing the opportunity to learn about and directly collaborate on cyber-based issues, the working group meetings allowed the Investigations Division to serve as an information hub and share knowledge with multiple internal and external mission partners.

The Investigations Division has participated in three Washington Metro Area Suspicious Activity Report Review Teams since FY 2022, specifically the District of Columbia, Maryland, and the Eastern District of Virginia review teams. Assistant United States Attorneys, typically in conjunction with Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, lead the three teams in each district. The teams are composed of federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel. Their mission is to leverage Bank Secrecy Act data to prevent terrorist attacks, disrupt criminal activities, and to improve cooperation, information sharing, and communication among law enforcement agencies and the financial community. In executing this mission, the Investigations Division reviews hundreds of Suspicious Activity Reports every month and assesses each for prospective leads as part of this proactive initiative to detect and prevent financial crime. As illustrated in Figure 1, IC IG's leadership across the IC has enabled the Investigations Division to share potentially critical

financial information with other agencies. Since FY 2022, the Investigations Division has referred a total of 99 Suspicious Activity Reports to 8 federal agencies for further review.<sup>5</sup> Referrals have implicated potential crimes such as money laundering, tax evasion, structuring, and fraud, ranging in amounts from thousands to millions of dollars. The Investigation Division's involvement with the Suspicious Activity Report Review Teams aligns with the IC IG's third strategic goal of enhancing collaboration, coordination, and communication with our partners and stakeholders.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network has approved IC IG referrals of Suspicious Activity Reports to authorized receiving officials.

# INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

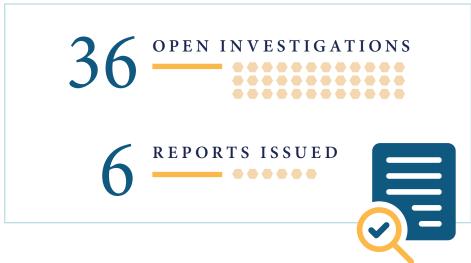
#### JOINT INVESTIGATIONS AND REFERRALS

The Investigations Division participated in seven joint investigations during this reporting period. These investigations involve potential offenses such as fraud, unauthorized disclosure, counterintelligence, intelligence oversight, procurement fraud, and contractor misconduct. Partners include IC OIGs, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, other federal investigative agencies, the Department of Justice Public Integrity Section and Antitrust Division, and the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia. Due to the size, scope, and complexity of the remaining joint investigations, the division expects its investigative and support efforts to continue into the next reporting period.

Additionally, on March 11, 2024, the Investigations Division referred contractor misconduct allegations to ODNI senior management officials. Specifically, the referral stated that the employee did not file an Outside Activity report for his or her outside employment; did not submit his or her resume through the ODNI pre-publication review process before seeking outside employment; and the employee did not report Unofficial Foreign National Contacts. IC IG referred this matter to ODNI for action as deemed appropriate.

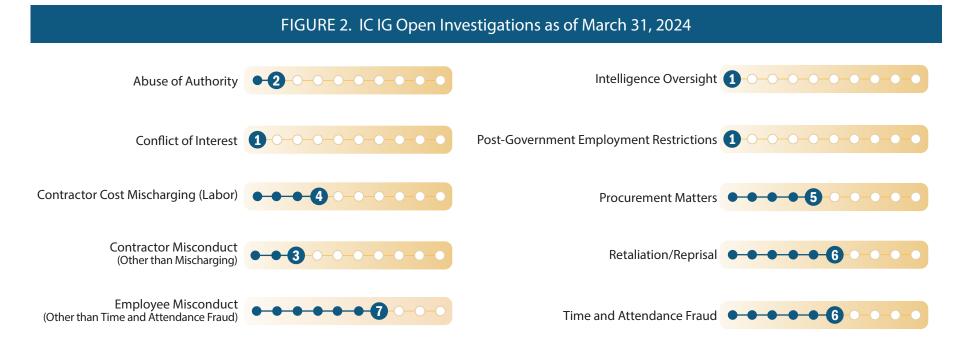
#### ONGOING AND COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS

The Investigations Division has 36 open investigations and has issued 6 investigative reports this reporting period. Based on the investigative findings, the IC IG made a series of targeted recommendations to ODNI senior leadership designed to mitigate risk associated with these deficiencies



The IC IG issued three subpoenas under its 50 U.S.C. § 3033(g)(5) authority during this reporting period.

#### **OPEN INVESTIGATIONS**



Source: Data contained in this table was obtained from the IC IG Case Management Tracking System.

36 TOTAL OPEN
 INVESTIGATIONS

#### INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



#### SUMMARIES OF PUBLISHED REPORTS

#### **Employee Misconduct**

On December 20, 2023, the Investigations Division completed its Report of Investigation regarding allegations of employee misconduct. The investigation determined that an ODNI employee violated section 18.2-346.01 of the Virginia Code when the employee paid for, and received, sexual acts from prostitutes in Virginia. Under that section, a person is guilty of solicitation of prostitution if [the person] "offers money or its equivalent to another for the purpose of engaging" in certain enumerated sexual acts "and thereafter does any substantial act in furtherance thereof." VA Code ANN. § 18.2-346.01.

The investigation further determined the employee violated an ODNI regulation and the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch (Standards of Ethical Conduct) by soliciting prostitutes in violation of Virginia law. The regulation requires ODNI employees to comply with state statutes. The Standards of Ethical Conduct further provide that federal "[e]mployees shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law." 5 C.F.R. § 2635.101(b)(14). Response to recommendations is pending.

#### **Contractor Cost Mischarging**

On January 9, 2024, the Investigations Division completed its Report of Investigation regarding allegations that a former ODNI contract employee engaged in labor mischarging.

The investigation substantiated by a preponderance of evidence that the contract employee violated 31 U.S.C. § 3729 (a)(1)(B), the False Claims Act, when the contract employee prepared and submitted timesheets from June 1, 2022, through April 10, 2023, totaling 260 hours for which there was no evidence that the contract employee actually performed work. Of the 260 mischarged hours, 236.25 hours were previously billed to ODNI, resulting in a billing impact of \$17,146.21. The vendor's internal investigation preceded our investigation.

On April 11, 2023, the vendor removed the contract employee from the contract and terminated the employee's employment with the company. In addition to the termination, the vendor refunded ODNI the \$17,146.21 that was mischarged on the contract. On June 1, 2023, the vendor filed an adverse action notification in the Defense Information System for Security personnel security database citing "personal conduct" as the reason for the termination. Response to recommendations is pending.

#### INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



#### SUMMARIES OF PUBLISHED REPORTS

#### **Contractor Cost Mischarging**

On January 30, 2024, the Investigations Division completed its Report of Investigation regarding allegations that an ODNI contract employee engaged in labor mischarging, and spent extensive time on the internet for non-work-related activities.

Our investigation substantiated by a preponderance of evidence that the contract employee violated 31 U.S.C. § 3729 (a)(1)(B), the False Claims Act, when the contract employee prepared and submitted timesheets from January 1, 2021, through July 15, 2022, totaling 463 hours for which there was no evidence that the contract employee actually performed work. The total loss to the U.S. Government is approximately \$52,665. Recoupment of funds is pending.

Our investigation substantiated by a preponderance of evidence that the contract employee violated ODNI Instruction 93.04, *Limited Personal Use of Government Office Equipment*, when the contract employee used government office equipment to support his or her personal rental business. The investigation determined that the contract employee frequently used the agency's unclassified network to message prospective tenants, update rental listings, and research new property listings.

Finally, the investigation also substantiated by a preponderance of evidence that the contract employee violated an agency regulation that requires reporting outside activities, when the contract employee failed to report a rental business as an outside employment activity.

#### Time and Attendance Fraud

On February 2, 2024, the Investigations Division completed its Report of Investigation regarding allegations that an ODNI cadre employee engaged in time and attendance fraud. Specifically, an anonymous submitter alleged the employee was never around and did not respond to emails that merited a response.

The investigation substantiated by a preponderance of evidence that the employee violated ODNI Instruction 73.04, *Time and Attendance Reporting*, when the employee prepared and submitted timesheets from January 5, 2022, through March 24, 2023, totaling 218.25 hours for which there was no evidence of work performed. The total loss to the U.S. Government is approximately \$12,423. Recoupment of funds is pending.

#### INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



#### SUMMARIES OF PUBLISHED REPORTS

#### Time and Attendance Fraud

On February 6, 2024, the Investigations Division completed its Report of Investigation regarding allegations that an ODNI cadre employee engaged in time and attendance fraud. According to the employee's first line supervisor, the employee had a telework agreement and a reasonable accommodation authorizing flexibility to work outside of the office during weekdays and weekends to accommodate a health condition. However, the supervisor alleged the weekend hours the employee claimed may not have been accurate, as the times and dates of email messages the employee sent to his or her supervisor on the weekends did not match the times and dates annotated on the employee's timesheets.

The investigation substantiated by a preponderance of evidence that the employee violated ODNI Instruction 73.04, *Time and Attendance Reporting*, when the employee prepared and submitted timesheets from October 1, 2021, through November 19, 2022, totaling 332.50 hours for which there was no evidence of work performed. The total loss to the U.S. Government is approximately \$27,956. Recoupment of funds is pending.

#### **Contractor Misconduct**

On February 21, 2024, the Investigations Division completed its Report of Investigation regarding allegations that an ODNI contract employee engaged in misconduct. Specifically, it was alleged that the contract employee utilized scripts to prevent his or her workstation from automatically screen locking after a period of non-use.

The investigation concluded that the contract employee violated a regulation that requires users to request Information Systems Security Manager approval before making any modification or security-relevant change to any information system, which the contract employee failed to do. The investigation determined that the modifications made by the contract employee included utilizing unauthorized scripts to automate tasks which resulted in circumvention of existing security controls for the automatic locking of workstations. Response to recommendations is pending.



# Reporting of Unauthorized Public Disclosure of Classified Information

Under 50 U.S.C. § 3235, IC IG is required to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a semiannual report specifying the number of investigations IC IG opened regarding unauthorized public disclosure of classified information, the number of investigations IC IG completed regarding unauthorized public disclosure of classified information, and the number of completed investigations that IC IG referred to the Attorney General for criminal investigation.

In accordance with the statutory requirement, IC IG reports that during the period from October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, the IC IG did not initiate or complete any investigations of unauthorized public disclosure of classified information nor did it refer any such investigations to the Attorney General for criminal investigation during the reporting period.

In addition to tracking and mitigating potential unauthorized disclosures originating from within ODNI, the IC IG Unauthorized Disclosure Program (UDP) is involved in the continuous tracking of all unauthorized disclosure incidents our IC mission partners report to the IC IG. The IC IG UDP engages in outreach and collaboration with ODNI's IC mission partners and tracks all reported unauthorized disclosure issues in a dedicated database. The IC IG UDP is responsible for tracking all reported unauthorized disclosure issues through their originating organization's closure and through DOJ investigation. IC IG UDP's collaboration with the National Counterintelligence and Security Center and other IC mission partners has led to the successful closure of numerous previously reported unauthorized disclosures. IC IG UDP's regular engagements with its partners have also improved the reporting of unauthorized disclosures across the IC. Reporting from some IC elements, however, has been inconsistent, which has raised concerns about possible underreporting of unauthorized disclosures to IC IG.

IC IG continues to engage with IC elements to ensure full compliance with reporting requirements established in Intelligence Community Directive 701, *Unauthorized Disclosures of Classified Information* (ICD 701). To achieve this objective, IC IG held two ICD 701 Unauthorized Disclosure Task Force meetings during this reporting period. The Task Force's goal is to improve the IC's collective ability to identify, track, report, and investigate unauthorized disclosures across the community through collaboration and the development of processes, procedures, and reporting to enable oversight of unauthorized disclosures by IC OIGs.

# Mission Guymont

The Mission Support Division (MSD) provides management and administrative support to the IC IG. MSD comprises multidisciplinary officers with expertise in financial management, human capital and talent management, facilities and logistics management, continuity of operations, administration, classification reviews, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act requests, information technology, communications, and quality assurance. MSD also delivers executive support to the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum (the Forum) and its Deputies Committee, and leads the Management and Administration Committee, as well as the Information Technology Subcommittee and Resource Independence Working Group.

MSD provides a range of functional support, including strategy development, strategy performance oversight, internal management and alignment of resources to IC IG goals and priorities, implementation of cross-cutting business processes, management of support to the Forum, budget, personnel, contracts, security, information technology, facilities, logistics, quality assurance, information management, classification, FOIA operations, continuity of operations, and emergency preparedness. Additionally, MSD supports human capital and communications activities, including shaping and executing the office's human capital strategy, initiatives, and tactical plan, as well as all IC IG outreach activities, such as media engagements, strategic communications, corporate identity and brand management, and visual communications.





MSD prepared for the **2024 Intelligence Community Inspectors General Conference**, which will take place May 7, 2024, at the NGA Conference Center. The event will be held in a hybrid format to allow for both in-person and virtual attendance. The theme of this year's conference is "Technology and the Intelligence Community." Sessions will focus on the use of AI, IC technology oversight, and implementing emerging technology. There will be technology-focused plenary sessions, tradecraft breakout sessions, and an opportunity for networking. Attendees can earn up to six CPE credits for participating in the conference.



As part of the conference agenda, IC IG will hold the **Intelligence Community Inspectors General Awards Ceremony** to honor members of the IC OIG community who have exhibited the highest levels of dedication and commitment to the IC in seven award categories: Lifetime Achievement, Leadership, Inspections, Audit, Investigations, Collaboration, and IC-Wide Mission Impact.

#### MISSION SUPPORT DIVISION

#### DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY INITIATIVES

During this reporting period, MSD continued to enhance its DEIA initiative by hosting several workforce engagement opportunities. MSD designed the initiatives to enhance employee awareness and comprehension of DEIA principles, cultivate an environment of inclusivity, and support and value the diverse perspectives and experiences of all employees. These initiatives reinforced the IC IG's commitment to fostering a workplace where every individual feels respected, supported, and empowered to contribute his or her best and to positioning the office as a leader in promoting DEIA in the IC. MSD hosted a series of events in support of IC IG's strategic objective to "cultivate the environment we desire and deserve."



#### Hispanic National Heritage Fireside Chat

In recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month, MSD and IC IG staff hosted a fireside chat in October 2023 with Ms. Stephanie la Rue, ODNI's IC DEIA Chief. Ms. la Rue spoke about Hispanic culture, sharing her perspectives on diversity in the IC and the benefits of having a community that is representative of society. She also shared her own personal challenges, experiences, and successes as a Hispanic American in the IC. The event included an opportunity to experience Hispanic cuisine and music.



#### **Black History Month Fireside Chat**

In February 2024, MSD recognized Black History Month by holding a fireside chat with Ms. Janice Glover-Jones, DIA Director of Mission Services. Ms. Glover-Jones shared her personal journey in federal government from a GS-1 to the Senior Executive ranks, focusing on capitalizing on both chartered and uncharted career opportunities. She also spoke about the importance of incorporating non-traditional recruitment strategies to attract and retain underrepresented groups. This corporate-wide event provided candid insight on leadership and inclusion from an IC senior leader who has made significant organizational and community impact.

#### MISSION SUPPORT DIVISION

#### DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY INITIATIVES



# Lunch with Leadership with the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security

In February 2024, MSD hosted its Lunch with Leadership series featuring the Honorable Ronald Moultrie, Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security. Mr. Moultrie shared his leadership philosophy, principles, and personal career journey. He discussed his involvement with intelligence and security organizations within the DoD, NSA, DIA, NGA, NRO, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, and the intelligence components of the combatant commands and military services.



#### Women in Oversight Symposium

The IC IG hosted its second annual Women in Oversight Symposium in March 2024 in support of Women's History Month. This special event featured a panel of women serving in senior leadership roles in federal oversight offices. The panel consisted of Jacquelyn Phillips, Deputy Inspector General, NGA; Jennifer Quinones, Deputy Inspector General, Department of Energy; Lauren Bernick, Principal Deputy Chief, ODNI Civil Liberties, Privacy, and Transparency; Kimberly A. Howell, Inspector General, Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and Parisa Salehi, Inspector General, Export-Import Bank of the United States. Panelists discussed industry challenges, shared career and professional advice, and examined opportunities for women in the oversight community. This event was open to the federal oversight and ODNI workforces.

#### MISSION SUPPORT DIVISION

## MSD-LED PARTNER ENGAGEMENTS AND STRATEGIC PROJECTS CONDUCTED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD



In November 2023, MSD, in collaboration with the Center for Protected Disclosures and Counsel Team, hosted a bilateral exchange with Australia's Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security on the topics of Hotline operations and current legal issues of interest. Topics covered Hotline intake procedures and best practices, determining jurisdiction, confidentiality and handling complaints with discretion, reporting requirements, recruiting and retaining personnel, and ways automation can streamline processes.



In November 2023, MSD hosted a bilateral exchange with Canada's National Security and Intelligence Review Agency to share perspectives on our respective processes, best practices for structuring mission support areas, and strategic planning. Specifically, the IC IG discussed MSD organizational structure and evolution; MSD's place within the IC IG office structure; training new staff and new employee orientation; office meeting tempo; best practices for gaining staff buy-in and functional integration; strategic planning and action planning; and conducting performance appraisals.



In December 2023, MSD updated IC IG's Concept of Operations, which outlines the organization, roles and responsibilities, authorities, relationships, and key deliverables and efforts of the IC IG. Additionally, the Concept of Operations articulates how we conduct audits, inspections, evaluations, investigations, reviews, and other core responsibilities.



In January 2024, IC IG finalized its FY 2024 Strategic Action Plan, coordinated by MSD staff. The plan will help IC IG advance its strategic goals, accomplish its vital mission, and realize its vision. The action plan aligns with IC IG's Strategic Plan 2023–2027 and identifies 86 specific FY 2024 initiatives and desired outcomes for the objectives.

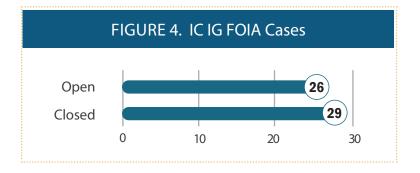




# IC IG FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND CLASSIFICATION REQUEST METRICS

From October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, MSD continued to respond to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and conduct document classification reviews in support of IC IG. These FOIA responses support IC IG's core value of Transparency.

# Total Requests and Pages Reviewed 166 TOTAL REQUESTS PAGES REVIEWED





# Center for Drotected Visclosures

The IC IG's Center for Protected Disclosures (the Center) processes whistleblower disclosures and complaints and provides guidance to individuals about the options and protections afforded to those who wish to make protected disclosures to the IC IG and/or Congress, or who believe they suffered reprisal because they made a protected disclosure.



Whistleblowing is the lawful disclosure to an authorized recipient of information a person reasonably believes evidences wrongdoing. It is the mechanism to relay the right information to the right people to counter wrongdoing and promote the proper, effective, and efficient performance of the Intelligence Community's mission. Whistleblowing in the Intelligence Community is extremely important as it ensures that personnel can "say something" when they "see something" through formal reporting procedures without harming national security and without retaliation.

# The Center for Protected Disclosures performs five critical functions for whistleblowers in the Intelligence Community

#### **ONE**

The Center, through the IC IG Hotline program, receives and processes whistleblower complaints of fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement of programs and activities within the responsibility of the DNI. There are six ways for individuals to report their concerns to the IC IG Hotline: (1) public and secure telephone numbers; (2) public and secure websites; (3) walk-in meetings at the IC IG's offices; (4) USPS mail; (5) fax; and (6) drop boxes in ODNI facilities.



## CENTER FOR PROTECTED DISCLOSURES FIVE CRITICAL FUNCTIONS

#### TWO

The Center, through the IC IG Hotline program, receives and processes allegations of "urgent concerns" pursuant to 50 U.S.C. § 3033(k)(5) (commonly known as the Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act or ICWPA). The ICWPA established a process to ensure that the DNI and congressional intelligence committees receive disclosures regarding certain types of wrongdoing, including serious or flagrant problems, abuses, violations of law or Executive Order, or deficiencies relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity.

To submit an "urgent concern" to the IC IG, the law requires that a submitter be "[a]n employee of an element of the intelligence community, an employee assigned or detailed to an element of the intelligence community, or an employee of a contractor to the intelligence community." The ICWPA also requires that a submitter provide a complaint or information with respect to an "urgent concern," which is defined as any of the following:

A serious or flagrant problem, abuse, violation of law or Executive order, or deficiency relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity of the Federal Government that is a matter of national security, and not a difference of opinion concerning public policy matters.

A false statement to Congress, or a willful withholding from Congress, on an issue of material fact relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity.

An action, including a personnel action described in 5 U.S.C. § 2302(a)(2)(A) constituting reprisal or threat of reprisal prohibited under 50 U.S.C. § 3033(g)(3)(B) in response to an employee's reporting an "urgent concern" in accordance with this paragraph.<sup>7</sup>

If the IC IG determines that the complaint falls within the jurisdiction of the ICWPA, then the IC IG must, within 14 calendar days, determine whether the "urgent concern" allegation "appear[s] credible." The Center tracks all ICWPA disclosures, ensures review of materials for classified information, and coordinates disclosures with other OIGs for appropriate review and disposition.

<sup>6 50</sup> U.S.C. § 3033(k)(5)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 50 U.S.C. § 3033 (k)(5)(G)(i)(I-III).

## CENTER FOR PROTECTED DISCLOSURES FIVE CRITICAL FUNCTIONS

#### **THREE**

The Center, through the External Review Panel (ERP) program, adjudicates IC employee and contractor requests for the IC IG to review their allegations of reprisal under Presidential Policy Directive-19 (PPD-19), *Protecting Whistleblowers with Access to Classified Information*, and 50 U.S.C. §§ 3234 and 3341(j). These authorities prohibit acts of reprisal against employees and contractors serving in the IC, as well as those who are eligible for access to classified information, who make protected disclosures.

The Center also reviews other IC OIGs' determinations regarding whistleblower reprisal allegations and non-IC OIGs' determinations regarding security clearances that are alleged to be in reprisal for making a protected disclosure. A whistleblower who has exhausted his or her home agency's whistleblower protection processes may request an ERP. Under appropriate circumstances, the IC IG may convene an ERP and review the matter.

#### **FOUR**

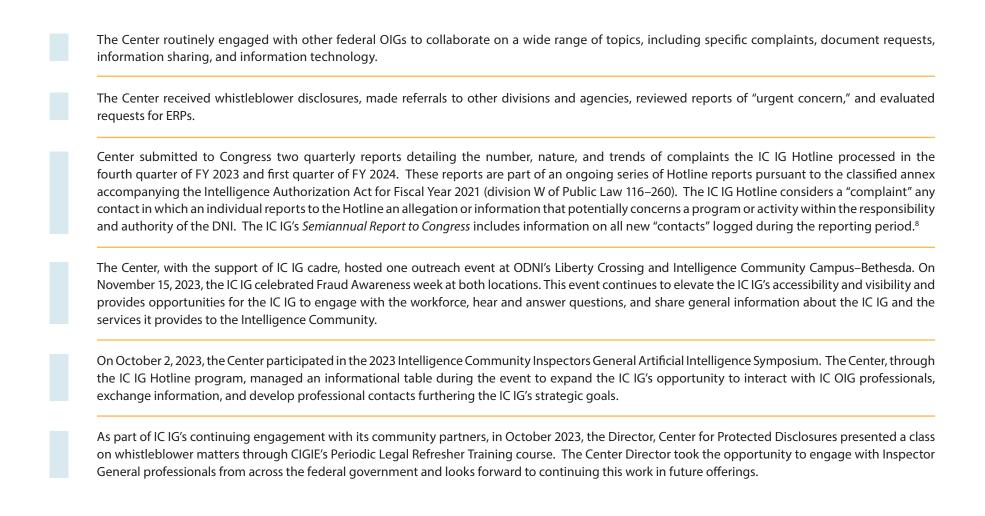
The Center, through the IC IG Hotline program, is appointed as the IC IG designee responsible for implementation of the whistleblower complaint notification system required by section 5334 of the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 (Division E of Public Law 116-92, 50 U.S.C. § 3033 note) (Section 5334).

Section 5334 directs the IC IG, in consultation with the Forum, to establish a system whereby the IC IG is notified "in near real time" of: (1) submission of complaints by whistleblowers to inspectors general of elements of the IC relating to program and activities within the jurisdiction of the DNI, and information related to such complaints; and (2) actions taken by the inspector general of an element of the IC relating to such complaints. Section 5334 further directs that the IC IG-established system may not be implemented until the IC IG, in consultation with the Forum, has developed and released to each inspector general of the elements of the IC written policies regarding implementation. On July 31, 2023, IC IG signed and released to each inspector general of the elements of the IC written policies regarding implementation, IC Standard Operating Directive 2023-001, Oversight by Inspector General of the Intelligence Community Whistleblower Matters.

#### **FIVE**

The Center conducts outreach and training across the IC to ensure stakeholders have accurate and consistent whistleblowing information relating to these and other matters. The Center provides guidance to personnel seeking more information about the options and protections afforded to individuals who may wish to make a protected disclosure to the IC IG and/or Congress, or who believe they have suffered reprisal because they made a protected disclosure.

## CENTER FOR PROTECTED DISCLOSURES ACTIVITIES THIS REPORTING PERIOD



<sup>8</sup> A contact includes "complaints," as defined above, and other matters received through the Hotline, such as suitability checks, requests for information, and other non-substantive, commercial, or frivolous contacts.

### CENTER FOR PROTECTED DISCLOSURES ACTIVITIES THIS REPORTING PERIOD

During this reporting period, the Center received and processed five "urgent concern" allegations. Three of the submissions, if true, would meet the statutory definition of urgent; however, for two of the three submissions the IC IG determined that the allegation did not appear credible. While those two matters were not required to be forwarded to the DNI under the ICWPA provisions, the IC IG elected to forward both matters to the DNI as a matter of discretion in order to keep the DNI fully and currently informed. In these same two matters, the Submitters also requested the IC IG forward the complaints to the congressional committees under the provisions of 50 U.S.C. § 3033(k)(5)(D)(ii). Consequently, IC IG provided the Submitters' complaints to the congressional intelligence committees on the Submitters' behalf. The IC IG forwarded the one submission that met the urgency and credibility requirements to the DNI and congressional intelligence committees within the 14-day period required by statute.<sup>9</sup> For the remaining two of the five submissions, one matter remains open and one failed to establish the minimum urgency requirements for reporting under 50 U.S.C. § 3033(k)(5) and did not warrant reporting under other authorities.

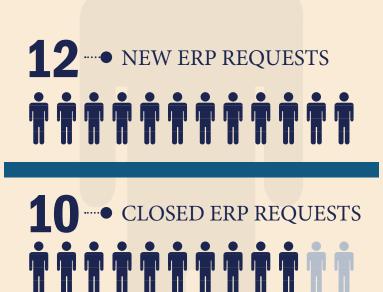
#### FIGURE 5. URGENT CONCERN METRICS

DETERMINATION	TOTAL "URGENT CONCERN" DISCLOSURES	FORWARDED TO THE DNI	FORWARDED TO THE INTELLIGENCE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
"Urgent" and appears "credible"	1	YES	YES
"Urgent" and does not appear "credible"	2	YES	YES
Not "urgent"	1	NO	NO
Open	1	TBD	TBD

<sup>9</sup> While the DNI is statutorily responsible for forwarding ICWPA matters to the congressional intelligence committees, IC IG often forwards them to the committees on the DNI's behalf as a courtesy.

# EXTERNAL REVIEW PANEL REQUESTS

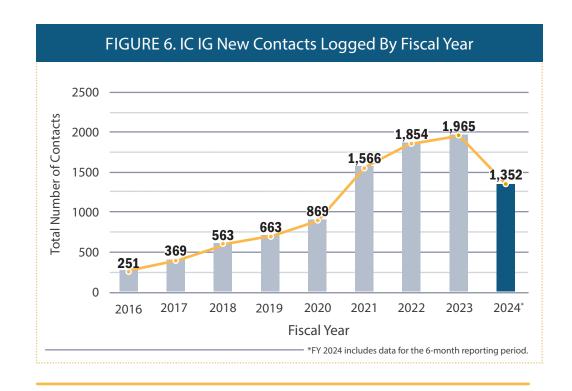
Under 50 U.S.C. § 3236, individuals alleging being subjected to certain prohibited personnel practices may request that the IC IG convene an ERP to review their claim if they have otherwise exhausted the review process for that claim. The Center for Protected Disclosures received 12 new ERP requests during the reporting period<sup>10</sup> and closed 10 requests. The Center conducts an initial assessment and review of materials submitted by both the complainant and the complainant's employing agency prior to reaching a determination. In total, the Center has 23 ERP requests undergoing initial assessment by IC IG. During this period, there were no ERP determinations issued nor prior panel recommendations awaiting responses from the heads of agencies.

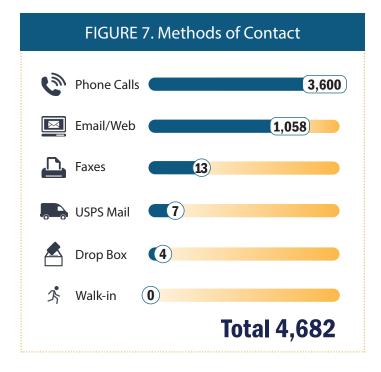


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Specific reporting required under 50 U.S.C. § 3236(e).

#### IC IG HOTLINE METRICS: OCTOBER 1, 2023 - MARCH 31, 2024

The IC IG Hotline provides a confidential means for Intelligence Community employees, contractors, and the public to report information concerning suspected fraud, waste, and abuse of programs and activities within the responsibility and authority of the Director of National Intelligence. The Hotline can be contacted via classified and unclassified email and phone lines, USPS mail, fax, secure web submissions, walk-ins, and drop boxes located in select ODNI facilities.









☎ OPEN: 855-731-3260 ♣ OPEN: WWW.DNI.GOV/ICIG

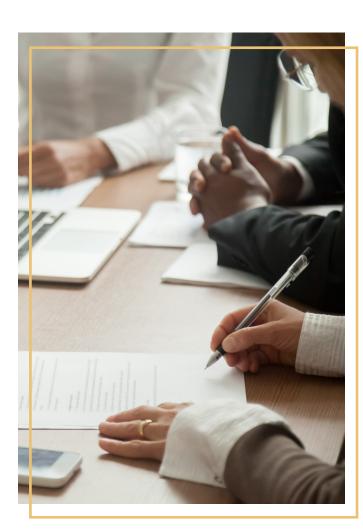
# Coursel to the Inspector General

The IC IG Counsel Team ensures that the Inspector General and other members of IC IG receive independent, confidential legal advice and policy counsel.

The Counsel Team's legal support and guidance meet the unique needs of each IC IG division. To support the Investigations Division, the Counsel Team, among other things, highlights and provides advice on potential legal issues that may require additional or redirected investigative efforts throughout the investigative process. To support the activities of the Audit Division and Inspections and Evaluations Division, the Counsel Team identifies and interprets key policy, contract, and legal provisions relevant to reported observations, findings, and recommendations. In support of IC IG's whistleblower program, the Counsel Team assists the Center for Protected Disclosures in developing policies and procedures, evaluating whistleblower disclosures, and providing legal advice for ERPs. The Counsel Team also provides enterprise-wide legal and policy guidance and reviews matters related to IC IG personnel, administration, training, ethics, independence, and budgetary functions. Attorneys from the Counsel Team also participate in the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum, the Forum's Counsels Committee, the Forum's Legislative Subcommittee, CIGIE's Legislative and Counsels Committees, and working groups of the Five Eyes Intelligence Oversight and Review Council.

In addition to its legal support role, the IC IG's Legislative Counsel serves as the IC IG's Congressional liaison.

# COUNSEL TO THE INSPECTOR GENERAL REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES



During this reporting period, the IC IG Counsel Team responded to a variety of requests and inquiries from Congress and Congressional staff to address questions regarding pending legislation; proposed or completed IC IG audits, reviews, and inspections; and the resources required to meet the IC IG's statutory responsibilities. The Counsel Team also evaluated and facilitated communications with Congress regarding complaints made pursuant to the ICWPA.

The IC IG Counsel Team also responded to requests for information and other inquiries from the U.S. Government Accountability Office.



# Partners bips

CONGRESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT
IC IG MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
IC INSPECTORS GENERAL FORUM
PEER REVIEWS
FIVE EYES INTELLIGENCE
OVERSIGHT AND REVIEW COUNCIL

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL COMMUNITY



#### **CONGRESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS**

During the reporting period, the IC IG participated in bipartisan and bicameral engagements with Congress on topics spanning all IC IG mission areas. Notably, IC IG provided briefings to congressional committees on several topics of interest, including IC IG resources, workforce posture, and work planning; IC IG's whistleblower processes and protections; and planned, ongoing, and completed audits, inspections, and evaluations, among others. IC IG also briefed congressional committees on various matters arising from submissions made pursuant to the Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act. Additionally, IC IG, both directly and in coordination with the Forum, informed Congress of various matters affecting IC IG and the broader IC OIG community, including with respect to Inspector General independence and ensuring the IC OIGs have sufficient resources to enable appropriate oversight.

During this reporting period, IC IG also developed its Congressional Engagement Strategic Action Plan for FY 2024 – 2025. The plan outlines ways to enhance collaboration, coordination, and communication among IC Offices of Inspector General, the DNI, Congress, and our partners and stakeholders. It provides a roadmap to deepen collaboration and communication with Congress on areas of mutual interest as appropriate.

#### IC IG MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

The IC IG Management Advisory Committee (MAC) is an employee-driven committee that fosters communication between IC IG leadership and the workforce. The MAC's mission is to advance IC IG's core values, promote employee engagement, and enhance the workplace environment. The committee meets monthly to consider opportunities to increase employee engagement, guide process improvement and office innovation, and strengthen IC IG's ability to efficiently and effectively achieve its mission. The MAC provides IC IG leadership with recommendations to address workforce-identified issues and assists IC IG leadership in communicating, planning, and carrying out initiatives resulting from MAC initiatives and recommendations.

During this reporting period, the MAC leadership underwent a routine change of administration based on the charter requirements. The MAC participated in the drafting of certain IC IG personnel policies and continued to host the "Table Talk" series with the Inspector General and Principal Deputy Inspector General to promote employee engagement. The MAC held an Oath of Office ceremony to enable the office to reaffirm its commitment to the IC IG and federal service. The MAC leadership coordinated with other IC employee engagement councils and management advisory groups to exchange ideas, including with those that work to establish employee engagement councils. This reporting period, the MAC increased committee membership, issued the IC IG quarterly newsletter to foster workplace community, and presented MAC Certificates of Appreciation to recognize individuals who demonstrated sustained support of the MAC in its mission to enhance the IC IG.



#### INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY INSPECTORS GENERAL FORUM

One of the most significant ways the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community works to improve integration of the IC is through the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum (the Forum). Pursuant to 50 U.S.C. § 3033(h)(2), the Forum consists of statutory or administrative Inspectors General with oversight responsibility for an element of the IC. The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community is the Chair of the Forum.

Through the Forum, member Offices of Inspector General can learn about work that may be of common interest and discuss matters related to jurisdiction or access to information and staff. As Chair, the Inspector General leads the Forum by coordinating efforts to find joint solutions to mutual challenges for improved integration among the Forum members. Forum committees, topic-specific working groups, and subject matter experts generate ideas to address shared concerns and mutual challenges for consideration and decision by the Inspectors General.



Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community



Central Intelligence Agency Office of Inspector General



Defense Intelligence Agency Office of the Inspector General



Department of Defense Office of Inspector General



Department of Energy Office of Inspector General



Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General



Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General



Department of State
Office of Inspector General



Department of the Treasury Office of Inspector General



National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Office of the Inspector General



National Reconnaissance Office Office of Inspector General



National Security Agency Office of the Inspector General

#### FORUM MEETING SUMMARIES

The Lonun

The Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum held quarterly meetings in December 2023 and February 2024. The December session included reflections from the 2023 annual meeting of the Five Eyes Intelligence Oversight and Review Council, a discussion about a potential IC IG project on IC OIG independence, and an update on planning for the 2024 Intelligence Community Inspectors General Conference. Additionally, each Inspector General reflected on work conducted in 2023 and shared anticipated projects for 2024.

The Forum assembled in February to discuss oversight work in national security focus areas, as well as work of potential interest to, or possible assistance from, Forum members. The Inspectors General also received a briefing on six FY 2025 legislative proposals developed by the Forum's Counsels Committee.



The next Forum Committee meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

#### FORUM MEETING SUMMARIES

Deputies Committee

The Deputies Committee, led by the Principal Deputy Inspector General, met twice during the reporting period. In November 2023, committee members held an open discussion on approaches to closing recommendations, best practices for coordinating with agencies, and identifying and handling recommendations. Members also discussed their offices' outreach and communications strategies, including approaches and best practices for engaging partners and stakeholders. Additionally, each member reflected on work conducted in 2023 and shared anticipated projects for 2024.

In addition, six Deputies Committee members and representatives from their offices participated in a work planning, knowledge sharing event hosted by IC IG in January 2024. The purpose of this event was to advance collective knowledge of oversight work planning approaches and practices within the IC, determine best approaches for planning joint work in the future, enhance knowledge of community-level challenges and risks, and provide a forum to share oversight priorities and activities.

The Deputies Committee convened again in February 2024. The IC IG's Assistant Inspector General for Audit shared highlights from discussions within the Forum's Audit Committee on Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA), artificial intelligence, and insider threat audits. The DoD's Principal Deputy Inspector General also facilitated a discussion on OMB Memorandum M-23-15, Measuring, Monitoring, and Improving Organizational Health and Organizational Performance in the Context of Evolving Agency Work Environments, issued April 13, 2023. Lastly, the Deputy Inspector General for the NGA facilitated a discussion on the Forum's approach to work planning.



The next Deputies Committee meeting is scheduled for May 2024.

Audit Committee

The Forum's Audit Committee held quarterly meetings to discuss relevant topics of interest. In December 2023, members met in-person and heard from committee members on results from the Joint Report on the Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015. At the March 2024 virtual meeting, members received briefings from the U.S. Government Accountability Office on changes and updates made to generally accepted government standards. The Audit Division must implement these changes by December 2025. The committee also received a brief from IC IG's Counsel Team on FY 2025 legislative proposals. At both meetings, members discussed plans and progress made for the FISMA, Artificial Intelligence, and Insider Threat projects.



The next Forum Audit Committee quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

#### Artificial Intelligence Working Group

The Artificial Intelligence Working Group will meet monthly until the Al-related audits are completed, currently anticipated for December 2024. The working group continues to include participation from 12 OIGs to collaborate and share findings and lessons learned as the OIGs perform audits of Al at their elements.

## السال

The next Artificial Intelligence Working Group meeting is scheduled for April 2024.

#### FISMA Working Group

The FISMA Working Group comprises members from six OIGs to collaborate on ways to improve efficiency for future annual evaluations, discuss where standardization may provide value, and address potential scoping issues for systems and services that affect multiple elements.



The next FISMA Working Group meeting is scheduled for April 2024.

Inspections Committee

The IC IG's Assistant Inspector General for Inspections and Evaluations serves as the Chair of the Forum's Inspections Committee, and the Department of Energy's Assistant Inspector General for Inspections serves as the Vice Chair. The committee met in December 2023 to discuss ongoing projects, opportunities for future joint or concurrent work, best practices, and lessons learned. In addition, the committee met with the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Audit and Projects Team on ways to improve communication and build upon existing relationships with congressional staff. The agenda also included a discussion related to Inspections Committee goals for FY 2024. The March 2024 meeting included discussions on peer review preparedness, and committee members brainstormed how to better inform the Forum Inspectors General on key topics of interest.



The next Forum Inspections Committee quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

Investigations Committee

The Forum's Investigations Committee met in December 2023 and March 2024. In December, the Forum's Investigations Committee hosted members from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Intelligence Law section who discussed the role of the DEA IC element, the international presence of DEA, the scope of DEA's international authorities, including narco-terrorism, and the oversight role of the DEA Inspections Division and the DOJ OIG. DEA also provided a briefing of the fentanyl supply chain, the distribution network within the United States, and the laundering of drug proceeds. The committee also discussed common trends and systemic issues.

In March, the Forum's Investigations Committee hosted members from the Department of Justice Civil Litigation Fraud Section (Civil Fraud Section) who discussed their coordination with other organizations on civil enforcement activities, and common types of procurement fraud cases and what happens before and after the formation of the case. DOJ also briefed on the False Claims Act, the Department of Justice Cyber Fraud Initiative, and other civil enforcement tools, such as the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act, Anti-Kickback Act, Procurement Integrity Act, and other relevant statutes.



The next Investigations Committee quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

#### Unauthorized Disclosure Task Force

The goal of the Forum's Investigations Committee's Unauthorized Disclosure Task Force is to improve the IC's collective ability to identify, track, report, and investigate unauthorized disclosures across the community. The Unauthorized Disclosure Task Force met three times during this reporting period: November 2023, January 2024, and March 2024. At these meetings, the Task Force discussed the purpose, scope, and the mission of the proposed Task Force Charter, the reporting requirements, and Inspector General and agency responsibilities under ICD 701.



The next Unauthorized Disclosure Task Force meeting is scheduled for May 2024.

Coursels Committee

The Forum's Counsels Committee meets regularly to discuss legal and policy issues of common interest to the IC and to promote the consistent interpretation of statutes, regulations, policies, and Executive Orders. The Counsels Committee operates with the goal of providing legal analysis of, and options related to, issues of particular importance to the Forum. During this reporting period, the Counsels Committee met in December 2023, January 2024, and March 2024 to discuss and collaborate on key initiatives, including best practices for ensuring the independence of IC OIGs, improved training on legal topics for IC OIGs, legal recruiting, enhanced whistleblower identity protection, collaboration on legislative proposals affecting IC OIGs, and coordination on legal aspects of ongoing reviews affecting multiple IC OIGs.



The next Counsels Committee quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

#### Legislative Subcommittee

To enhance coordination on legislative topics of common interest, in this reporting period the Forum established a Legislative Subcommittee of the Counsels Committee. The Legislative Subcommittee is responsible for informing Forum members of legislation that may impact the IC OIG community, and where appropriate, for engaging Congress and providing Forum-wide views on such legislation. The Legislative Subcommittee met in January and March 2024. On behalf of the Forum, the Legislative Subcommittee provided congressional committees with technical assistance and also developed several proposals for the FY 2025 legislative cycle. These proposals, if enacted, will clarify and strengthen whistleblower processes and protections, and will enhance the independence of the Forum's OIGs.

The Legislative Subcommittee is currently developing strategic priorities for the remainder of this fiscal year, as well as for FY 2025.



The next Legislative Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

Management and Administration Committee

The IC IG Assistant Inspector General for Mission Support hosted a productive Forum Management and Administration Committee meeting in March 2024. The meeting addressed topics important to the IC IG and the broader Forum OIGs. Representatives from the National Science Foundation OIG and United States Postal Service OIG briefed committee members on OIG website hosting options via Oversight.gov. The briefing included a demonstration of the Inspector General web template and feedback from an OIG whose website is currently hosted on the platform. Additionally, members of the Forum's Counsels Committee briefed on coordination conducted to identify how Forum OIGs were interpreting and implementing new Semiannual Report requirements. Other meeting topics consisted of a briefing from the IC IG's Director of Talent and Workforce Development on the 2024 Intelligence Community Inspectors General Conference and 2023 Awards Ceremony, and a briefing on the IC IG's Management Advisory Committee (MAC) model by the current and former MAC chairs.



The next Management and Administration Committee meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

#### Information Technology Subcommittee

The purpose of the Information Technology Subcommittee is to provide a forum for information technology professionals in the IC OIG community to share best practices, problems, solutions, and other matters relevant to providing superior information technology support to the IC's OIG workforce. The Mission Support Division hosted the Information Technology Subcommittee in March 2024 to discuss current and projected case management and audit management applications in use by OIGs and virtual teleconference support to the 2024 Intelligence Community Inspectors General Conference.

#### Resource Independence Working Group

The Resource Independence Working Group met in October 2023 and March 2024. The working group discussed IC OIG common areas of concern related to resource challenges, lessons learned, and opportunities for collaboration. Topics of discussion this reporting period included the FY 2025 OMB Passback, the National Defense Authorization Act, agency Above Threshold Reprogramming actions, and contracting for Information Management support (e.g., classification, pre-publication, records management, and FOIA/Privacy Act review).



The next Information Technology Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for June 2024.



The next Resource Independence Working Group meeting is scheduled for April 2024.

# FORUM WORKING GROUPS LED BY THE CENTER FOR PROTECTED DISCLOSURES



#### IC Hotline Working Group

In January 2024, the Center for Protected Disclosures hosted an IC Hotline Working Group meeting. The group meets semiannually and is composed of members from IC element OIGs. Topics discussed during the meeting related to the status of the IC consolidated reporting system for whistleblower complaints (Section 5334), a discussion on challenges and best practices regarding the receipt of oral complaints, legislative updates, and FY 2024 Intelligence Community Inspectors General conference planning regarding the Hotline breakout session.



The next IC Hotline Working Group meeting is scheduled for April 2024.



#### Whistleblower Working Group

In February 2024, the Center for Protected Disclosures hosted its semiannual IC Whistleblower Working Group meeting at IC IG. The group discussed whistleblower matters of common interest including recent trends in ERP requests received by the IC IG Hotline, an update on legislative proposals put forth by the Forum's Legislative Subcommittee, a guest presentation by NSA OIG on tentative conclusion letters and best practices for closing investigations, and an open discussion of future topics and follow-on work. The Whistleblower Working Group also discussed opportunities to enhance member engagement through soliciting interest in the vice-chair position. The meeting was well attended both in person as well as via dial-in connection with OIG representatives from the CIA, NSA, NRO, NGA, DIA, and the Departments of Defense, Energy, Homeland Security, Justice, and State.



#### PEER REVIEWS

#### Audit

The IC IG Audit Division was not the subject of a peer review in this review period. However, the Audit Division coordinated CIGIE peer review training in support of the external peer reviews of the audit divisions at the NGA OIG and NSA OIG, which concluded the three-year audit peer review cycle ending March 31, 2024. The Audit Division has started to coordinate and schedule audit peer reviews for the six IC OIGs for the next three-year cycle.

#### Inspections and Evaluations

As Chair of the IC IG's Inspections Committee, the IC IG Assistant Inspector General for Inspections and Evaluations serves as the peer review coordinator for six IC OIGs to ensure adherence to the CIGIE Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation. The Chair coordinated peer review schedules with applicable committee members; facilitated finalization of peer reviews of NRO OIG, NSA OIG, and CIA OIG; and is assisting in the preparation of the NGA OIG's peer review scheduled for the fourth quarter of FY 2024.

The Inspections Committee, using CIGIE's peer review training curriculum, established a peer review training program to enhance team preparedness to conduct peer reviews and the quality of overall peer reviews of participating OIGs.

#### Investigations

During this review period, the Investigations Division completed its support of DIA OIG's review of NGA OIG's investigations program and NRO OIG's assessment of DIA OIG. The Investigations Division will lead the assessment of CIA OIG in late summer, and will undergo a peer review by NGA OIG in August. As Chair of the IC IG's Investigations Committee, the IC IG Assistant Inspector General for Investigations continues to serve as the peer review coordinator for IC OIG investigations programs.



# FIVE EYES INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT AND REVIEW COUNCIL

The Five Eyes Intelligence Oversight and Review Council (FIORC) comprises the non-political intelligence oversight, review, and security entities of the Five Eyes countries: the Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security (Australia); the Office of the Intelligence Commissioner and National Security and Intelligence Review Agency (Canada); the Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security (New Zealand); the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office (United Kingdom); and the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (United States). The FIORC members exchange views of mutual interest and compare best practices in review and oversight methodology.

The members of FIORC hold conference calls throughout the year, and gather in person annually, with the host country rotating among the five members.

Australia will host the 2024 annual FIORC meeting in November. FIORC members held their first planning conference call in March 2024. Current proposed topics include international and cross-jurisdictional inspections; the career of an oversight officer; complaint-focused practices, independence, engagement, and effective oversight; oversight of the development and use of advancing and emerging technologies; emerging national security priorities; external communication practices; and FIORC collaboration.



The next planning conference call is scheduled for June 2024.



## THE INSPECTOR GENERAL COMMUNITY

Forty-five years ago, President Jimmy Carter signed the Inspector General Act of 1978 and described the new statutory Inspectors General as "perhaps the most important new tools in the fight against fraud." The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, one of 74 Inspectors General collectively overseeing the operations of nearly every aspect of the federal government, looks forward to continuing to work with CIGIE on important issues that significantly affect productivity, transparency, and accountability throughout the federal government.

The Inspector General is personally engaged in various CIGIE activities, including serving as the Vice Chair of the Integrity Committee; as a member of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Committee; and as a coach for the Professional Development Committee coaching program. Members of the IC IG workforce participate in various CIGIE committees and activities, to include the Legislation Committee, Technology Committee, Inspection and Evaluation Roundtable, and Cybersecurity Working Group, among others.



SORT. SEARCH. FILTER.

Oversight.gov allows users to sort, search, and filter the site's database of public reports from all CIGIE-member OIGs to find reports of interest.

#### OVERSIGHT.GOV

On behalf of the federal Inspector General community, CIGIE manages Oversight.gov, a "one stop shop" to follow the ongoing oversight work of all OIGs that publicly post reports. The IC IG, like other OIGs, posts reports to its own website, as well as to Oversight.gov, to afford users the benefits of the website's search and retrieval features. Oversight.gov allows users to sort, search, and filter the site's database of public reports from all CIGIE-member OIGs to find reports of interest. In addition, the site features a user-friendly map that allows users to find reports based on geographic location and obtain contact information for each OIG's Hotline. Users can receive notifications when new reports are added to the site by following CIGIE's Twitter account, @OversightGov.



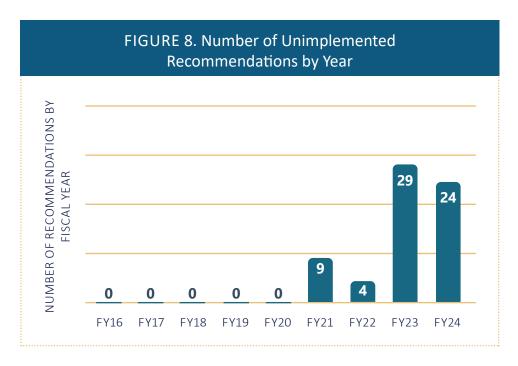
# Decommendations

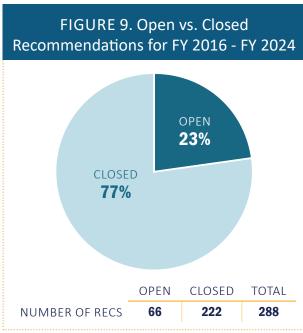
Following publication of a report, the IC IG divisions interact on a minimum quarterly basis with the responsible ODNI officials (or other organization officials, as appropriate) to ensure the agency is taking actions to implement report recommendations. The IC IG personnel document the responsive actions taken into the IC IG's recommendations tracking database. The IC IG division leadership approves the closure of a recommendation once it has been demonstrated that responsive actions meet the intent of a recommendation.<sup>11</sup> The divisions may revisit closed recommendations to ensure actions are fulfilled or to inform follow-on reviews.

To enhance cooperation and accountability, the IC IG instituted quarterly meetings with the DNI and senior ODNI staff beginning in August 2022 to discuss open IC IG recommendations. Holding quarterly meetings with the DNI and senior ODNI staff has enabled the IC IG to close most of its oldest open recommendations. Specifically, it has closed 70 recommendations from 22 IC IG reports issued between November 2015 and November 2023. Due to ODNI's efforts, IC IG has closed 77 percent of IC IG recommendations made since FY 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> In some cases, responsive actions deviate from the original IC IG recommendation because responsible ODNI officials may revise their plan of corrective action. In those cases, responsive actions may not align directly with the original recommendation, but IC IG may determine the actions still meet the intent of the recommendation.

# Decommendations





#### **RECOMMENDATIONS TABLE**

REPORT NAME	DATE ISSUED	TOTAL ISSUED	NEW THIS PERIOD	CLOSED IN PRIOR SAR PERIODS	CLOSED THIS PERIOD	CURRENTLY OPEN		
FY 2024								
Audit: Fiscal Year 2023 Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Financial Statements*	NOV	2	2	0	0	2		
Audit: Office of the Director or National Intelligence Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015	NOV	0	0	0	0	0		
Audit: Joint Report on the Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015	DEC	0	0	0	0	0		
Inspection: Evaluation of the Administration of Polygraphs in the Intelligence Community	DEC	3	3	0	0	3		
Investigation: Employee Misconduct	DEC	2	2	0	0	2		
Investigation: Contractor Cost Mischarging	JAN	4	4	0	0	4		
Investigation: Contractor Cost Mischarging	JAN	2	2	0	0	2		
Investigation: Time and Attendance Fraud	FEB	3	3	0	0	3		
Investigation: Time and Attendance Fraud	FEB	4	4	0	0	4		
Investigation: Contractor Misconduct	FEB	3	3	0	0	3		
Inspection: Evaluation of the Intelligence Community Elements' Use of Space Certified as a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility in the Continental United States	MAR	1	1	0	0	1		

<sup>\*</sup>This report repeated or repeated the intent of 14 recommendations made in the FY 2022 Audit of the ODNI's Financial Statements, and made 2 new recommendations

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS TABLE**

REPORT NAME	DATE ISSUED	TOTAL ISSUED	NEW THIS PERIOD	CLOSED IN PRIOR SAR PERIODS	CLOSED THIS PERIOD	CURRENTLY OPEN		
FY 2023								
Audit: Independent Auditor's Report on the Fiscal Year 2022 Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Financial Statements	NOV	16	0	0	2	14		
Investigation: Time and Attendance Fraud	NOV	7	0	6	0	1		
Investigation: Time and Attendance Fraud	MAR	8	0	0	0	8		
Investigation: Employee Misconduct	MAY	8	0	2	6	0		
Audit: FY 2023 Independent Evaluation of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Information Security Program and Practices, as Required by the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014	JUL	5	0	0	0	5		
Management Advisory Memorandum: Potential Risk Associated with Release of Polygraph Methods	SEP	1	0	0	0	1		
FY 2022								
Inspection: Review of Intelligence Community Analytic Ombudspersons' Complaint Processes	DEC	2	0	1	1	0		
Inspection: Review of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Pandemic Preparedness and Response	JUN	3	0	1	0	2		
Investigation: Other Administrative Matters (USERRA)	AUG	5	0	3	0	2		

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS TABLE**

REPORT NAME	DATE ISSUED	TOTAL ISSUED	NEW THIS PERIOD	CLOSED IN PRIOR SAR PERIODS	CLOSED THIS PERIOD	CURRENTLY OPEN		
FY 2021								
Inspection: Evaluation of the Intelligence Community Foreign Language Program	AUG	9	0	0	0	9		
FY 2019								
Audit: Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Fiscal Year 2018 Conference Spending	SEP	2	0	1	1	0		
TOTALS		90	24	14	10	66		

# ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AI
The Center Center for Protected Disclosures
CIA Central Intelligence Agency
CIGIECouncil of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
CISA Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015
DEIA Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accountability
DHS Department of Homeland Security
DIA Defense Intelligence Agency
DNI Director of National Intelligence
DoD
DOJDepartment of Justice
ERPExternal Review Panel
FIORCFive Eyes Intelligence Oversight and Review Council
FISMAFederal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014
FOIA Freedom of Information Act
The Forum Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum
FY Fiscal Year
IAA
I&E

IC	Intelligence Community
ICD	Intelligence Community Directive
IC IGOffic	ce of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community
ICWPA	Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Ac
IG	
MAC	Management Advisory Committee
MSD	Mission Support Division
NCSC	
NGA	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
NRO	National Reconnaissance Office
NSA	National Security Agency
ODNI	Office of the Director of National Intelligence
OIG	Office of Inspector Genera
OMB	Office of Management and Budge
PIIA	Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019
PPD	Presidential Policy Directive
SCIF	Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility
UDP	Unauthorized Disclosure Progran



## OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

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