



Federal Election Commission
Office of the Inspector General

SEMIANNUAL REPORT *to* CONGRESS

April 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 25, 2024

The Honorable J. Michael Johnson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232 United States Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kamala D. Harris
President of the Senate
S-212 United States Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Speaker and Madam President:

Pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, the Federal Election Commission submits the Office of Inspector General's *Semiannual Report to Congress*. The report summarizes the activity of the FEC Office of Inspector General ("OIG") from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024.

During this reporting period, the OIG completed its annual review of the FEC's compliance with improper payment requirements for Fiscal Year 2023, and it published an audit of the FEC's Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Programs, which was completed by independent auditors. Management's responses to the audit is included in that report, which is available on FEC.gov at: <https://www.fec.gov/office-inspector-general/>.

The Commission also notes it was pleased to welcome Susan Ruge-Hudson, who began serving as Inspector General in late October 2024.

The Commission appreciates and shares the Office of Inspector General's commitment to sound financial and management practices and looks forward to continuing its cooperative working relationship as management takes appropriate measures to improve operations of the Commission. Copies of the *Semiannual Report to Congress* will be provided to the FEC's oversight committees.

On behalf of the Commission,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean J. Cooksey".

Sean J. Cooksey
Chairman

Enclosure

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Message from the Acting Deputy Inspector General

I am pleased to present the Federal Election Commission (FEC) Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) Semiannual Report to Congress. This report summarized the FEC OIG's activities from April 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024, and reflects our commitment to provide effective oversight in accordance with our mandate.

During the reporting period, the audit team completed and published the [Independent Auditor's Report on the FEC's Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity Equity Inclusion and Accessibility Programs](#) and the [FEC's Compliance with Improper Payment Requirements for Fiscal Year 2023](#). The audit team contracted with Brown & Company, PLLC to perform the annual audit of the FEC's financial statements.

The investigative team continues to respond to hotline complaints and conduct investigations as needed. During the reporting period, the OIG received 135 hotline complaints and closed 142 complaints, including several from the prior reporting period. In comparison, the team received 38 complaints and closed 36 in the corresponding period last year, representing a 279% increase in complaint volume. The investigation team conducted multiple interviews with agency personnel and contractors, in addition to responding to hotline complaints.

During the reporting cycle, the OIG closed five recommendations including three recommendations from the [Evaluation of Staffing, Hiring, and Retention Inspection](#), and one recommendation each from the [Audit of the FEC's Human Capital Management Program](#), and Review of the [FEC's Travel and Purchase Card Programs](#). The FEC OIG continues to work with FEC leadership and monitor their progress addressing the remaining 18 recommendations.

The OIG recently said farewell to the Deputy Inspector General, Dennis Phillips. He accepted an appointment as the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

The FEC OIG remains committed to conducting audits, evaluations, and reviews to strengthen the agency's internal controls, addressing hotline complaints, working with agency leadership to resolve outstanding audit and investigative recommendations, and ensuring that the FEC and OIG programs are efficient and effective on behalf of the American taxpayers. This Semiannual Report reflects the exceptional work of the FEC OIG team and their commitment to the critical mission of the OIG.



Michael Mitchell
Acting, Deputy Inspector General

OIG Personnel Updates

Additions:

Mr. Michael Mitchell was appointed Acting Deputy Inspector General in May 2024. He brings 25 years of audit and management experience to the Office of the Inspector General. Mr. Mitchell currently holds certifications from the Association of Inspectors General as both a Certified Inspector General and a Certified Inspector General Auditor. His previous roles include auditor for the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulations Office of the Inspector General and the Florida Department of Revenue, as well as an adjunct instructor of accounting and management at Indian River State College. He was previously certified by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement as a Correctional Probation Officer, where he worked for the Florida Department of Corrections Probation and Parole Division in Miami, Florida.

Farewells:

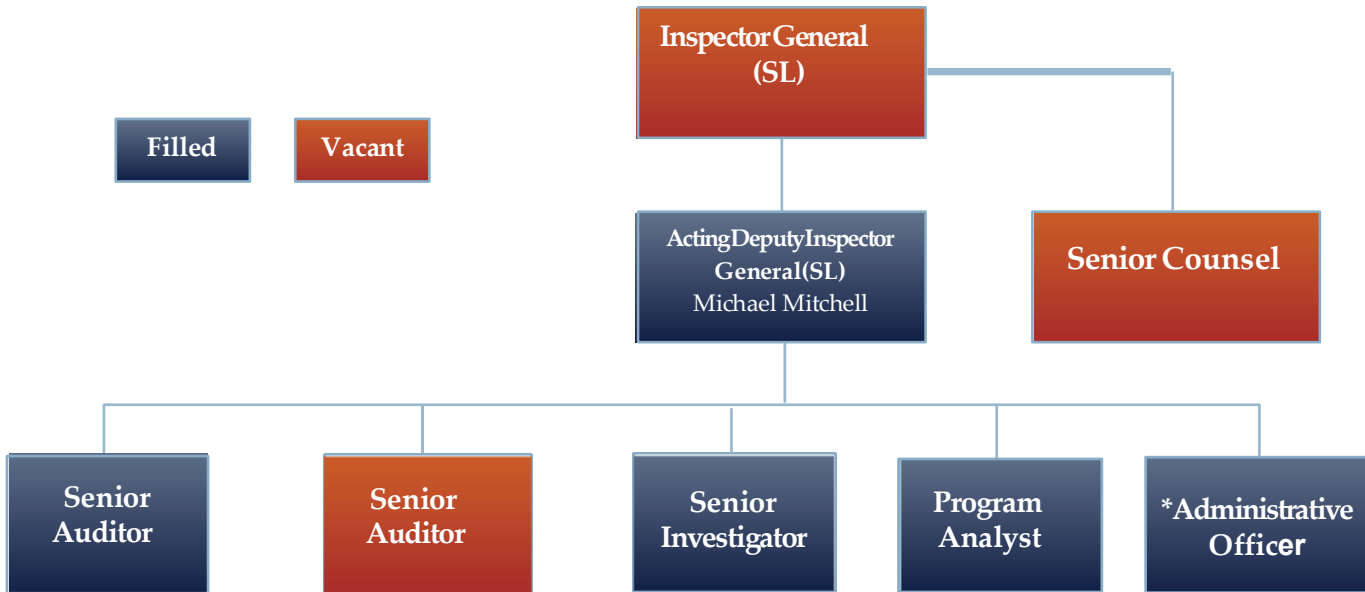
Mr. Dennis Phillips, Deputy Inspector General, was appointed as the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and departed in May 2024 after providing over three years of service to the FEC OIG.

Vacancies:

During the reporting period, the OIG had three vacant positions.



FEC Office of the Inspector General Organization Chart



* The Deputy Inspector General departed in May 2024.

** Administrative Officer reports to the Deputy IG, supports all FEC OIG staff in administrative matters, and reports to the IG for purposes of managing the IG's schedule and related items.

Updated: June 2024

Core Values

Commitment

We are committed to continually seek personal and operational growth opportunities to preserve the positive reputation of the **OIG**. We pledge our dedication to persistently enhance our skillsets in efforts to uphold the integrity of the **FEC**.

Respect

We are devoted to creating a professional and positive work environment in which all colleagues and stakeholders are treated with the utmost respect. We welcome, value, and embrace the diversity of everyone and behave respectfully to all with whom we interact.

Service

We pride ourselves in providing a non-confrontational, value-added service to customers through objective, accurate, and timely evaluations of **OIG** inquiries in support of **FEC** operations and procedures.

Honesty

We are honest, fair, and true to ourselves, to each other, and to our customers, which is reflected in our reputation. We behave with the highest levels of integrity, which is fundamental to who we are as a team.

Collaboration

We strive to collaborate and build key relationships within the **OIG** community and the **FEC** in order to improve program operations, efficiencies, and effectiveness. We universally work together to identify potential opportunities to partner with **OIG** stakeholders in efforts to resolve Government wide concerns and maximize the value to the citizens of the **United States**.

Balance

We aim to balance customer needs with the mission of the **OIG** and **FEC** while assuring all endeavors of our work reflect transparent and unbiased processes. We apply this practice through our application of due regard for our peers, our beliefs, our family, and our stakeholders.

Executive Summary

The *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended (IG Act), states that the Inspector General (IG) is responsible for conducting audits and investigations; recommending policies and procedures that promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in agency operations and programs; and preventing fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement. The IG Act requires that the IG provide a means for keeping the head of its respective establishment (i.e., the Commission) and Congress fully and currently informed of issues or concerns relating to the administration of FEC programs and operations through regular reports. Additionally, IGs are required to promptly report to their respective establishments particularly serious or flagrant problems, abuses, or deficiencies relating to the administration of agency programs and operations.

This semiannual report provides the major accomplishments of the FEC OIG, as well as relevant information regarding additional OIG activities. The executive summary highlights the most significant completed activities of the OIG from April 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024. Additional details pertaining to each activity (e.g., audits, evaluations, hotline, investigations, and special reviews) can be found in subsequent sections of this report. The FEC OIG staff relies and acts on its OIG Core Principles (honesty, collaboration, commitment, balance, service, and respect) and adheres to the standards issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) to ensure the integrity of all FEC OIG work products.

OIG Audit, Special Review, and Other Activity

FY 2024 Financial Statement Audit

The OIG entered into a five-year Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) with Brown & Company, PLLC to perform Professional Audit Services. The FEC's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 financial statement (FS) audit is the second FS audit issued under the BPA. The entrance conference was held on April 11, 2024. Final audit testing will be performed during October and early November 2024. We anticipate completing the audit on-time, providing no unforeseen delays, and issuing the final audit report by the mandated date of November 15, 2024.

Audit of FEC's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) & Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Programs

This performance audit commenced during a prior reporting period. The exit conference was held on May 7, 2024. The two objectives for this audit were: (1) to assess FEC's compliance with statutory EEO requirements, applicable guidance issued by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), and Federal best practices, as well as applicable agency policies and procedures; and (2) to analyze FEC's implementation of diversity and inclusion efforts related to the workforce to promote racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the workforce. The report was issued on June 28, 2024, and no significant deficiencies or reportable findings were identified.

Audit of the FEC's Security Patches and Vulnerability Management Program

This audit engagement commenced on September 1, 2024, and is being conducted by the independent public accounting firm Brown & Company, PLLC. The main objective of the audit is to assess the operating effectiveness of FEC's system security patch and vulnerability management programs. A secondary objective is to evaluate the efficiency of maintaining the agency's legacy systems and determine the costs associated with it.

Evaluation of FEC's A-123 Internal Control and Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) program(s)

This evaluation has been postponed due to resource constraints in the OIG. This evaluation has been added to our FY 2025 oversight plan.

OIG Recommendations Follow-up Activity

The OIG has the responsibility to perform follow-up assessments to ensure that management has effectively implemented OIG recommendations. The OIG follows up on all FEC recommendations that have been outstanding for more than six months and identifies the progress management has made in addressing such recommendations to date. The OIG continues to follow up with management to address outstanding recommendations. As of September 30, 2024, there were 18 outstanding recommendations greater than six months old (see complete details in Table III: Summary of Audit, Review, Inspection, and Investigative Reports with Corrective Actions Outstanding).

OIG Hotline Activity and Investigations

The OIG manages its complaints primarily through the online hotline portal, through which members of the public and agency employees may submit matters to the OIG. The OIG started the reporting period with ten open complaints from previous reporting periods. During this reporting period, the OIG received 135 new hotline complaints and closed 144 complaints, including the ten from prior reporting periods. Of the 135 new hotline complaints, the OIG conducted preliminary work on one complaint that resulted in a referral to the OIG audit team. The reporting period ended with one open hotline complaint.

The OIG previously reported no investigation as of March 31, 2024. During the reporting period, no new investigations were opened.

OIG Audit, Evaluation, Special Review, and Other Activity

Title:	FY 2024 Financial Statement Audit
Assignment Number:	OIG-24-01
Status:	In progress

The FY 2024 Annual Financial Statement (FS) Audit is being conducted under a 5-year BPA that was awarded to IPA firm Brown & Company. During this reporting period, the entrance conference was held on April 11, 2024, which kicked off the planning phase of the audit. The start of field work and interim testing began in May 2024.

Brown & Company is currently in the process of completing interim and compliance testing, assessing information technology (IT) internal controls, and following-up on the status of prior years' IT audit findings and recommendations. As in prior years, the IPA is required by the FEC OIG's contract to conduct additional testing on IT controls, as the FEC is exempt from the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) and is not required to perform an annual FISMA audit.

Final audit testing will be performed during October and early November 2024, followed by the draft report to management and exit conference by early November. The OIG anticipates completing the audit on-time, providing no unforeseen delays, and issuing the final audit report by the mandated date of November 15, 2024.

Title:	Audit of the FEC's Security Patches and Vulnerability Management Program
Assignment Number:	OIG-24-02
Status:	In progress

This audit engagement commenced on September 1, 2024, and is being conducted by IPA firm Brown & Company. The entrance conference was held on September 30, 2024. The main objective of the audit is to assess the operating effectiveness of FEC's system security patch and vulnerability management programs. We are currently in the planning phase. The OIG anticipates that this audit will be completed, and report issued by the next reporting period.

Title:	Audit of FEC's Equal Employment Opportunity & Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Programs
Assignment Number:	OIG-23-02
Status:	Completed

This performance audit commenced during a prior reporting period. The audit was conducted by IPA firm Brown & Company, PLLC. The two objectives of the audit were:

1. To assess FEC's compliance with statutory EEO requirements, applicable EEOC and OPM guidance, Federal best practices, as well as applicable agency policies and procedures; and
2. To analyze FEC's implementation of diversity and inclusion efforts related to the workforce to promote racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the workforce.

The exit conference was held on May 7, 2024. The report was issued on June 28, 2024, and no significant deficiencies or reportable findings were included. The IPA concluded that:

- FEC complied with the requirements of applicable sections of 29 C.F.R. §1614. and EEOC MD 110 and MD 715.
- FEC complied with applicable FEC EEO directives, policies, and procedures.
- FEC's efforts to ensure equal employment opportunities are generally effective, though it identified opportunity to improve the hiring of underrepresented groups (e.g., Latinos, Native Americans, minority men), which was covered in a separate management letter.
- FEC's DEIA initiatives are contributing to the establishment of a fair and inclusive workplace.

The report was issued on June 28, 2024, and no significant deficiencies or reportable findings were included.

Title:	Evaluation of the FEC's A-123 Internal Controls and Risk Management Program(s)
Assignment Number:	IE-24-01
Status:	Postponed

This evaluation has been postponed due to resource constraints in the OIG. It has been added to our FY 2025 oversight plan.

Title:	FEC's Compliance with Improper Payments Reporting for Fiscal Year 2023
Assignment Number:	SR-24-01
Status:	Completed

This compliance review satisfies the OIG's FY 2023 annual review of the FEC's compliance with the *Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019* (PIIA). This review was conducted in accordance with the requirements in the *Office*

of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-123, Appendix C (March 2021), OMB Circular A-136 (as amended), OMB Annual Data Call Instructions, OMB Payment Integrity Question and Answer Platform, and the CIGIE Guide for PIIA.

The purpose of this special review was to evaluate whether the agency has complied with the PIIA and other applicable payment integrity guidance, which includes publishing the appropriate improper payments information with the annual Performance and Accountability Report (PAR) or Annual Financial Report (AFR) along with accompanying materials for the most recent fiscal year. The OIG examined the agency's payment integrity section and other improper payment disclosure sections of the FEC FY 2023 AFR posted on the agency's website. The OIG concluded that the agency complied with applicable PIIA requirements and other applicable OMB guidance. No findings were reported. The OIG issued a management letter in May 2024.

OIG Recommendations Follow-up Activity

Title:	OIG Recommendations Follow-up Activity
Assignment Number:	N/A
Status:	In Progress

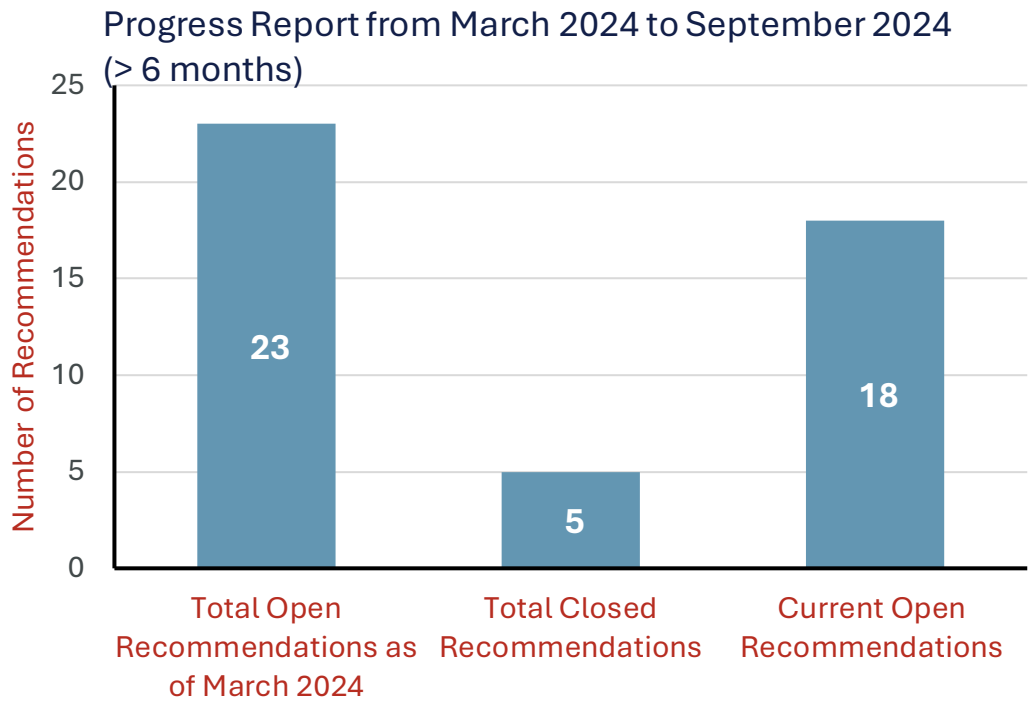
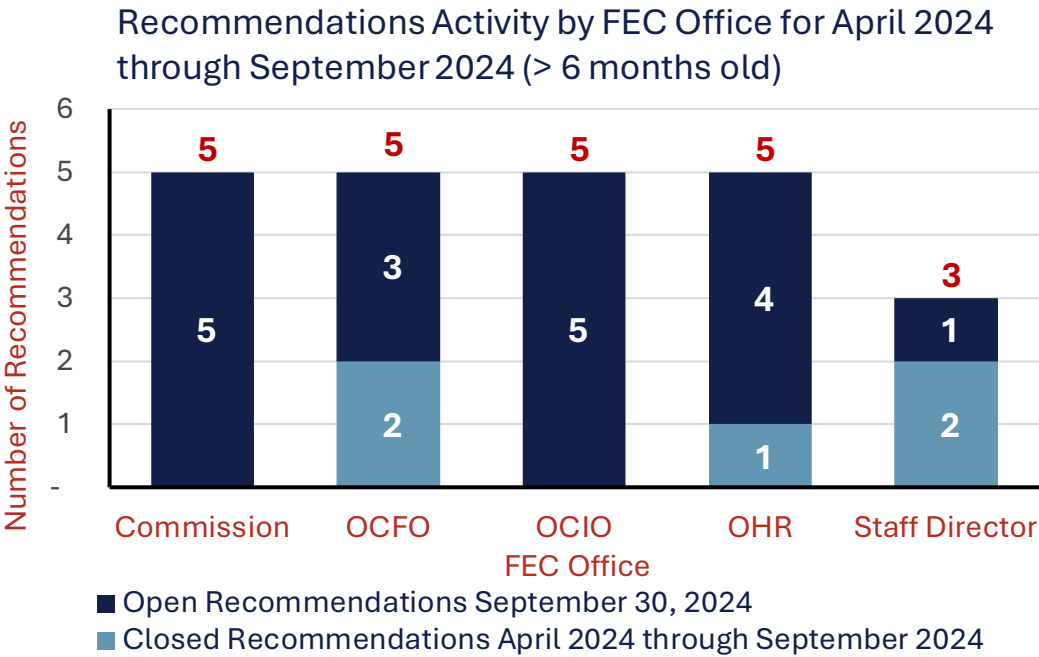
As required by the *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended, the OIG is responsible for, among other things, conducting and supervising audits, inspections, and special reviews of the FEC's programs and operations. Additionally, the OIG has the responsibility to perform follow-up assessments to ensure that management has effectively implemented OIG recommendations. The OIG follows up on all recommendations that have been outstanding for more than six months and identifies the progress management has made in addressing such recommendations to date. Accordingly, the figures detailed herein do not include recommendations less than six months old.

The previous reporting period we identified 17 recommendations outstanding for more than six months from seven engagements (one inspection, one investigation, two audits, and three special reviews). Six additional recommendations from the prior reporting period became subject to statutory follow-up requirements during the current reporting period. These six stemmed from one investigation, one audit and evaluation, bringing the total number of recommendations subject to OIG follow-up (outstanding over six months) to 23. Five of these 23 recommendations were closed during the reporting period ending September 30, 2024. One closed recommendation related to the [Audit Report of the FEC's Human Capital Management for FY 2022](#), one was from the [Special Review of the FEC's Travel and Purchase Card Programs](#), and the final three were from the [Evaluation of Staffing, Hiring, and Retention at the FEC](#). After closing these five recommendations, 18 recommendations remained open and outstanding for over six months as of September 30, 2024.

The 18 open recommendations as September 30, 2024, stem from the following inspection, investigations, special reviews, and audits:

1. [Inspection the FEC's Disaster Recovery Plan and Continuity of Operations Plans](#) (outstanding 11 years, eight months)
2. [Investigation I21INV00037: Allegations of Bias Against Federal Election Commission Personnel Reviewing the 58th Presidential Inaugural Committee Reports](#) (outstanding three years two months)
3. [OIG Special Review of the Federal Election Commission \(FEC\) Contracting Officers Representative \(COR\) Program](#) (outstanding two years four months)
4. [OIG Review of Commission Directive 06, Handling of Internally Generated Matters](#) (outstanding one year 11 months)
5. [OIG Audit of the FEC's Human Capital Management for FY 2022](#) (one year five months)
6. [OIG Special Review of the FEC Travel and Purchase Card Programs](#) (outstanding one year two months)

7. [Audit Report of the FEC's FY 2023 Financial Statements](#) (outstanding ten months)
8. [Investigations I22INV00002: Investigation of Alleged Misuse of Government Resources to Access Inappropriate Material](#) (outstanding nine months)



Open and New Recommendations Oct 2016 - Sept 2024 (> 6 Months)Average Age of Open Recommendations (> 6 Months)



OIG Hotline Activity

The **T**he **OIG** hotline provides a means for FEC employees, FEC contractors, and the public to communicate directly and confidentially with the **OIG** regarding allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, and misconduct. Additionally, the **OIG** may open a hotline complaint based on information received from members of Congress, FEC management, or the results of an audit or review.

Persons who seek to submit complaints have three methods of submitting their inquiry: (1) the hotline portal, which is accessible through the **OIG** webpage; (2) the **OIG** hotline form (which can be mailed to the **OIG**'s physical address); and (3) the **OIG** hotline telephone line, which is actively monitored during business hours.

The **OIG** started the reporting period with ten open complaints from previous reporting periods. This reporting period, the **OIG** received 135 new hotline complaints and closed 144 complaints, including the ten from prior reporting periods. In comparison, the team received 38 complaints and closed 36 in the corresponding period last year, representing a 279% increase in complaint volume. Of the 135 new hotline complaints, the **OIG** conducted preliminary work on one complaint that resulted in a referral to the **OIG** audit team. The reporting period ended with one open hotline complaint.¹

During this reporting period, the **OIG** Senior Investigator participated in an outreach event at the Department of Defense Hotline Working Group Quarterly Meeting. The Senior Investigator spoke about the work of the **OIG** Hotline and shared best practices from his experiences working in the Hotline. The virtual event had over 100 participants from across the **OIG** Hotline community.

The **OIG** takes all matters received on the hotline seriously. Accordingly, we carefully analyze all information received to determine the appropriate course of action. Those courses of action include but are not limited to:

- **Opened for investigation** – Issue involves an FEC employee, program/process, and alleges a violation of an applicable law, rule, or regulation.
- **OIG referral to management for action** – Issue is more suitably handled by management; **OIG** refers to management for action deemed appropriate.
- **OIG referral to another existing FEC program/process (i.e., OGC, EEO, HR)** – Existing process exists to resolve the issue; **OIG** refers the matter to relevant program/process for action deemed appropriate.
- **OIG referral to external agency** – Issue is best handled by another agency that has jurisdiction over the matter and/or it warrants criminal investigation/prosecution. **OIG** refers to relevant agency for action deemed appropriate.
- **OIG referral to the **OIG** audit, evaluation, or special review process** – Issue identifies compliance or

¹ The **OIG** also receives communications that do not rise to the level of complaints because they are not **OIG** specific, fail to state a complaint, or are resolved during the call. We classify those as **OIG** Contacts for reporting purposes. During the reporting period, the **OIG** received and responded to 73 **OIG** Contacts.

internal control concerns regarding specific agency operations but does not warrant OIG investigation. OIG refers internally for potential audit or review.

- **Assist complainant** – OIG determines the complaint is best handled by an existing process and/or entity that is available to the complainant. OIG notifies the complainant of that process.
- **Closed with no further action** – Complaint is frivolous, has already been addressed, provides insufficient detail to act, or otherwise warrants no further OIG action. OIG advises complainant that the matter is not within the OIG’s cognizance, when appropriate.

OIG Course of Action - Hotlines Closed	
Opened for investigation	0
OIG referral to FEC management	0
OIG referral to existing FEC program/process	8
OIG referral to external agency	10
OIG referral to OIG audit/special review	1
Assist complainant	44
Closed with no action	81
Total Hotlines Closed	144

OIG Investigative Summaries

OIG investigations gather and analyze facts to resolve allegations of wrongdoing. OIG investigations may address administrative, civil, and criminal violations of laws, regulations, and policies and issues concerning the economy and efficiency of FEC operations and programs. The subject of an OIG investigation may include any agency employee, FEC contractor, consultant, or person or entity involved in alleged wrongdoing affecting FEC programs and operations.

As previously noted, the OIG evaluates all hotline complaints to determine if an investigation is warranted. OIG investigations involve a detailed analysis of the issues presented, as well as emerging issues identified by the OIG. That analysis includes, but is not limited to, obtaining pertinent agency records, performing computer material examinations, and interviewing witnesses and subjects. Occasionally, open investigations may be closed without a Report of Investigation (ROI) due to, among other things, refuting evidence or lack of evidence obtained and/or the level of severity of the allegation(s). Additionally, competing priorities may indicate that an allegation of wrongdoing is better addressed by management than by OIG investigation.

If the OIG determines to proceed and prepare an ROI, that report will provide a summary of the complaint, document the specific allegation(s), the law(s) or regulation(s) associated with the allegation(s), the objective description of the case facts, and a conclusion of investigative findings (i.e., substantiated or not substantiated). In addition, where appropriate, the report addresses potential improvements to the economy and efficiency of FEC programs and operations. The OIG previously reported no investigation as of March 31, 2024. During the reporting period, no new investigations were opened.

The Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022² requires the OIG to report annually on suspected violations relating to trafficking in persons; investigations resulting from those suspected violations; the status and outcomes of those investigations; and related recommendations to improve Agency programs and operations. The OIG has no responsive information for this reporting period

² Pub. L. 117-348, § 122(e) (Jan. 5, 2023).

Closed Investigations - Courses of Action (October 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024)	# of Investigations
Investigations closed with ROI released to Commissioners	0
ROI completed and released to Commissioners and referred to local state authorities	0
Investigations closed with Management Alert Memorandum (requesting management to follow up with actions taken, if any)	0
Investigations closed with Closing Memorandum but not provided to management due to insufficient evidence	0
Investigations closed and referred to OIG audit/special review program	0
Referrals to DOJ for federal prosecution	0
Totals	0

FEC OIG Status of Investigations (April 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024)	# of Investigations
Open Investigations as of March 20, 2024	0
Opened Investigations April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024	0
Closed Investigations April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024	0
Open Investigations as of September 30, 2024	0
Totals	0

Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency

Prior to his departure, Mr. Dennis Phillips, the Deputy Inspector General, participated in CIGIE quarterly meetings and various CIGIE meetings.

Mr. Michael Mitchell, Acting Deputy Inspector General, participates in the CIGIE monthly member meetings, the Federal Audit Executive Council, Financial Statement Audit Network, and Legislative Committee meetings.

Ms. Shellie Purnell-Brown, Senior Auditor, participates in the Enterprise Risk Management working group and she served as the Chair of the Federal Audit Executive Council Annual Conference Planning Committee.

Mr. David (Marshall) High, Program Analyst, participates in the Inspection and Evaluation Roundtable and the I&E Expansion Workgroup.

List of Trainings, Meetings & Conferences

The chart below provides a list of trainings, meetings, programs, seminars, and/or conferences attended by OIG staff for the period April 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024.

Trainings, Meetings, Conferences, Etc.	
Host / Sponsor	Topic / Subject
Association of Access Professionals (ASAP)	Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Training
Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE)	35th Annual Global Fraud Conference
	Maryland (MD) Chapter Annual Fraud Conference
Blacks in Government (BIG) National Training Institute	45th Annual National Training Institute
Comptroller General of the United States, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Office of Personnel Management (OPM), & US Department of Treasury	Joint Financial Management Improvement Program Conference
Congress	Call with Bipartisan Counsels of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee
Corporate Compliance Seminars	GAO Green Book Standards
Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE)	2024 CIGIE/GAO Financial Statement Audit Conference
	2024 - Federal Audit Executive Council (FAEC) Annual Conference
	Audit Peer Review Training
	CIGIE IG 101
	ERM Working Group Quarterly Meeting
	FAEC Quarterly Meeting
	Financial Statement Audit Network Monthly Meeting
	Inspection and Evaluation Roundtable
	Inspector General – Trends in Government Oversight
	Legislation Committee

	Meeting for New and Acting Inspector Generals Monthly Member Meeting Training Officer and Budget Training Upon Further Inspection: Blue Book Quality Control Standard
Defense Acquisition University	Contracting Officer Representative (COR) I Training
Department of Defense (DoD)	Quarterly Hotline Working Group
Department of Justice	Procurement and Collusion Strike Force Training
Eventbrite.com	Workforce of the Future Playbook: Strategic Workforce Planning, Tech, & AI
Federal Acquisition Institute	Building and Strengthening Effective Communication with Industry Category Management Dashboards and Tools Overview Category Management 101 Combating Trafficking in Persons Contract Innovation Exploration Introduction to Supply Chain Risk Management
Federal Election Commission	10 Ways to Avoid Phishing Scams 2024 Danger Zone 2024 Kevin Mitnick Security Awareness Training Anti-Human Trafficking - Blue Campaign Human Trafficking Budget Committee Commission Meeting – Executive Session Director’s Meeting Ethics Briefing EAP Presentation: Dealing w Challenging Interactions FEC 101 Reporting and Facilitating Disclosure Finance Committee Meeting Financial Statement Audit and Bi-Weekly Status Meetings Gartner Group Audit Research Service Demo Hatch Act Training

	<p>How to Create Strong Passwords</p> <p>OIG New Hire Orientation</p> <p>OIG Bi-Weekly Staff Sync</p> <p>OIG Bi-Weekly Hotline Sync</p> <p>Percipio: Discussion Series #5 - Leadership for All</p> <p>QR Codes: Safe Scanning</p> <p>Xera Training/Demo</p>
Fed Insider	<p>State and Local Cybersecurity for the 2024 Election</p> <p>AI for Government: Opportunities and Challenges</p>
Fed News Network	Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Exchange Forum
Federally Employed Women (FEW)	55th National Training Institute
General Services Administration (GSA)	<p>A Guide to Performance-Based Acquisitions</p> <p>Doing Business with the GSA</p> <p>GSA 101 and Personal Property Management System (PPMS) Familiarization</p> <p>Payment Integrity & Fraud Symposium</p>
Graduate School USA	Federal Year-End Spending
GovExec	Cyber Defenders
Health and Human Services	Federal Benefits Webinar
Management Concepts	<p>Federal Occupational Health (FOH) - Embrace, Evolve, Excel: Adapting to Workplace Change with Resilience</p> <p>Leading Organizational Change</p> <p>How to Present Data Analytics Findings Effectively to Stakeholders</p> <p>Maximizing Funds at Fiscal Year End</p> <p>Agency Operations in the Absence of Regular Appropriations</p>
National Science Foundation	Joint Financial Management Improvement Program Conference (JFMIP)
National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C)	<p>Introduction to the Internet of Things (CI099)</p> <p>Social Media Searching (CI134 OSINT 3)</p>

	Strategic Extraction and Preservation of Social Media Data for OSINT Investigations
Opexus	eCase Audit Management Software Demo
OPM	Cultivating Emotional Intelligence for a Thriving Workforce Executive and Schedule C System (ESC) New User Training Workforce of the Future
Wolters-Kluwer	Teammate Analytics
Workiva	Workiva Audit Management Software Demo

Reporting Requirements

Reporting requirements required by the IG Act, as amended, are detailed below:

IG Act	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
Section 4(a)(2)	Review of Legislation	None
Section 5(a)(1)	Significant Problems, Abuses, and Deficiencies	None
Section 5(a)(2)	Recommendations with Respect to Significant Problems, Abuses, and Deficiencies	None
Section 5(a)(3)	Recommendations Included in Previous Reports on Which Corrective Action Has Not Been Completed (Table III)	28
Section 5(a)(4)	Matters Referred to Prosecuting Authorities	None
Section 5(a)(5)	Summary of Instances Where Information was Refused	None
Section 5(a)(7)	Summary of Significant Reports	None
Section 5(a)(8)	Questioned and Unsupported Costs (Table I)	26
Section 5(a)(9)	Recommendations that Funds be Put To Better Use (Table II)	27
Section 5(a)(10) (A)	Summary of Audit Reports issued before the start of the Reporting Period for which No Management Decision has been made	None
Section 5(a)(10) (B)	Summary of Audit Reports Issued Before the start of the Reporting Period for which No Management Comment was Returned Within 60 Days	None
Section 5(a)(10) (C)	Summary of Audit Reports Issued Before the Start of the Reporting Period for which There Are Outstanding Unimplemented Recommendations	None
Section 5(a)(11)	Significant Revised Management Decisions	None
Section 5(a)(12)	Management Decisions with which the Inspector General is in Disagreement	None
Section 5(a)(14)	Peer Review Recommendations	30

IG Act	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
Section 5(a)(17), (18)	Investigative Reports Table and Metrics (Table IV)	28
Section 5(a)(19)	Investigations Involving a Senior Government Employee with Substantiated Misconduct	None
Section 5(a)(20)	Instances of Whistleblower Retaliation	None
Section 5(a)(21)	Attempts by the Agency to Interfere with OIG Independence	None
Section 5(a)(22)	Undisclosed Inspections, Evaluations, Audits, and Investigations	None

Table I: Inspector General Issued Reports with Questioned Costs

	Required reporting	Number of Reports	Questioned Costs	Unsupported Costs
A.	For which no management decision has been made by commencement of the reporting period	0	0	0
B.	Which were issued during the reporting period	0	0	0
	Sub-Totals (A&B)	0	0	0
C.	For which a management decision was made during the reporting period	0	0	0
	(i) Dollar value of disallowed costs	0	0	0
	(ii) Dollar value of costs not disallowed	0	0	0
D.	For which no management decision has been made by the end of the reporting period	0	0	0
E.	Reports for which no management decision was made within six months of issuance	0	0	0

Table II: Inspector General Issued Reports with Recommended Actions That Funds Be Spent to Better Use

	Required Reporting	Number of Rec's	Dollar Value (In Thousands)
A.	For which no management decision has been made by the commencement of the reporting period	0	0
B.	Which were issued during the reporting period	0	0
C.	For which a management decision was made during the reporting period	0	0
	(i) dollar value of recommendations were agreed to by management	0	0
	based on proposed management action	0	0
	based on proposed legislative action	0	0
	(ii) dollar value of recommendations that were not agreed to by management	0	0
D.	For which no management decision has been made by the end of the reporting period	0	0
E.	Reports for which no management decision was made within six months of issuance	0	0

Table III: Summary of Audit, Review, Inspection, and Investigative Reports with Corrective Actions Outstanding

Report Title	Report Number	Date Issued	Total Rec's	Closed	Open	Cost Savings
Inspection of the Federal Election Commission's Disaster Recovery Plan and Continuity of Operations Plans	OIG-12-06	01/2013	2	0	2	0
Investigation I21INV00037	I21INV00037	08/2021	4	0	4	0
Special Review of the FEC Contracting Officers Representative (COR) Program	SR-22-01	05/2022	1	0	1	0
OIG Review of Commission Directive 06	2022-10-001	10/2022	1	0	1	0
Audit Report of the FEC's Human Capital Management for FY2022	OIG-22-02	4/2023	5	1	4	0
Review of the FEC Travel and Purchase Card Programs	Special Review 23-02	8/2023	4	1	3	0
Independent Auditor's Report on the FEC's FY 2023 Financial Statements	OIG-23-01	11/2023	1	0	1	0
Investigation of Alleged Misuse of Government Resources and Access to Inappropriate Material	I22INV00002	12/2023	2	0	2	0
Evaluation of Staffing, Hiring, and Retention at the FEC	IE-23-01	2/2024	3	3	0	0
Totals			23	5	18	0

Table IV: Summary of Investigative Reports and Actions³

FEC OIG Investigations Courses of Action (Apr 1, 2024 - Sep 31, 2024)	Number
Total number of investigative reports issued	0
Total number of persons referred to DOJ for criminal prosecution	0
Total number of persons referred to state and local prosecuting authorities for criminal prosecution	0
Total number of indictments and criminal information resulting from any prior referral to prosecuting authorities	0
Total Investigations Closed	0

³ Metrics Used for Developing Data for Table IV:

Total number of investigative reports issued - reflects the number of all Reports of Investigation (ROI) issued to FEC Commissioners, management alert memorandums, closing memorandums, and other referral memorandums during the reporting period.

Total number of persons referred to DOJ for criminal prosecution and total number of persons referred to state and local prosecuting authorities for criminal prosecution - reflects the total number of referrals for criminal prosecution made by the FEC OIG to the respective criminal prosecuting authorities during the reporting period; and

Total number of indictments and criminal information resulting from any prior referral to prosecuting authorities - includes all indictments and information issued during the reporting period by federal, state, or local criminal prosecuting authorities based upon any referral by the FEC OIG, whether the referral was made during this reporting period or a prior reporting period.

Appendix A: Peer Review Results

In accordance with the IG Act, OIGs are required to report to Congress, as applicable, results of any peer reviews it received or conducted during the reporting period. Specifically, OIGs are required to report any outstanding recommendations that resulted from the peer review.

OIG Peer Review Activity

Title:	Peer Review of the Federal Trade Commission OIG Audit Program
Assignment Number:	N/A
Status:	Complete

In accordance with the CIGIE Audit Peer Review schedule, the FEC OIG was tasked with conducting a peer review of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) OIG Audit Program for the reporting period ended March 31, 2024. During the reporting period the FEC OIG team completed the review and issued the report on September 11, 2024. Our report contained no recommendations.

During the end of this reporting period, the Farm Credit Administration OIG initiated a peer review of the FEC OIG’s investigative function. The peer review is anticipated to continue into the next reporting period. The OIG will report the result of the peer review in a future semi- annual Report to Congress.

Appendix B: Mission Statements

Office of Inspector General

The FEC OIG is committed to detecting and preventing fraud, waste, abuse, and other violations of law, and to promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the operations of the FEC. The OIG strives to collaboratively promote improvements to FEC strategic operations, programs, and initiatives by independently conducting value-added audits, reviews, and investigations. Our vision is to serve as trusted agents in driving positive change and promoting integrity in FEC programs and operations.

The Federal Election Commission

The FEC is the independent regulatory agency charged with administering and enforcing the federal campaign finance law. The FEC has jurisdiction over the financing of campaigns for the U.S. House, Senate, Presidency and the Vice Presidency. Its mission is to protect the integrity of the federal campaign finance process by providing transparency and fairly enforcing and administering federal campaign finance laws.

In 1975, Congress created the FEC to administer and enforce the *Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971*, as amended. The duties of the FEC, an independent regulatory agency, are to disclose campaign finance information, enforce the provisions of the law, and oversee the public funding of presidential elections.

The Commission consists of six members who are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. Each member serves a six-year term, and two seats are subject to appointment every two years. By law, no more than three Commissioners can be members of the same political party, and at least four votes are required for any official Commission action. The Chairmanship of the Commission rotates among the members each year, with no member serving as Chairman more than once during his or her term.

Currently, the FEC has six Commissioners – Sean J. Cooksey (Chairman), Ellen L. Weintraub (Vice Chair), Shana M. Broussard, Allen Dickerson, Dara Lindenbaum, and James E. “Trey” Trainor, III.



Federal Election Commission Office of the Inspector General

REPORT FRAUD, WASTE, & ABUSE

OIG Hotline Portal

<https://fecoig.ains.com>



* Also accessible via:
<http://www.fec.gov/oig>

OIG Hotline Phone

202-694-1015



* Available from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Eastern Standard Time, Monday through
Friday, excluding federal holidays.

Or you may call toll free at 1-800-424-9530 (press 0; then dial 1015). You may also file a complaint by completing the Hotline Complaint Form (<http://www.fec.gov/oig>) and mailing it to: 1050 First Street, N.E., Suite 1010, Washington DC 20463.

Individuals including FEC and FEC contractor employees are encouraged to alert the OIG to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement of agency programs and operations. Individuals who contact the OIG can remain anonymous. However, persons who report allegations are encouraged to provide their contact information in the event additional questions arise as the OIG evaluates the allegations. Allegations with limited details or merit may be held in abeyance until further specific details are reported or obtained. Pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, the Inspector General will not disclose the identity of an individual who provides information without the consent of that individual, unless the Inspector General determines that such disclosure is unavoidable during the course of an investigation. To learn more about the OIG, visit our Website at: <http://www.fec.gov/oig>.

Together we can make a difference!

