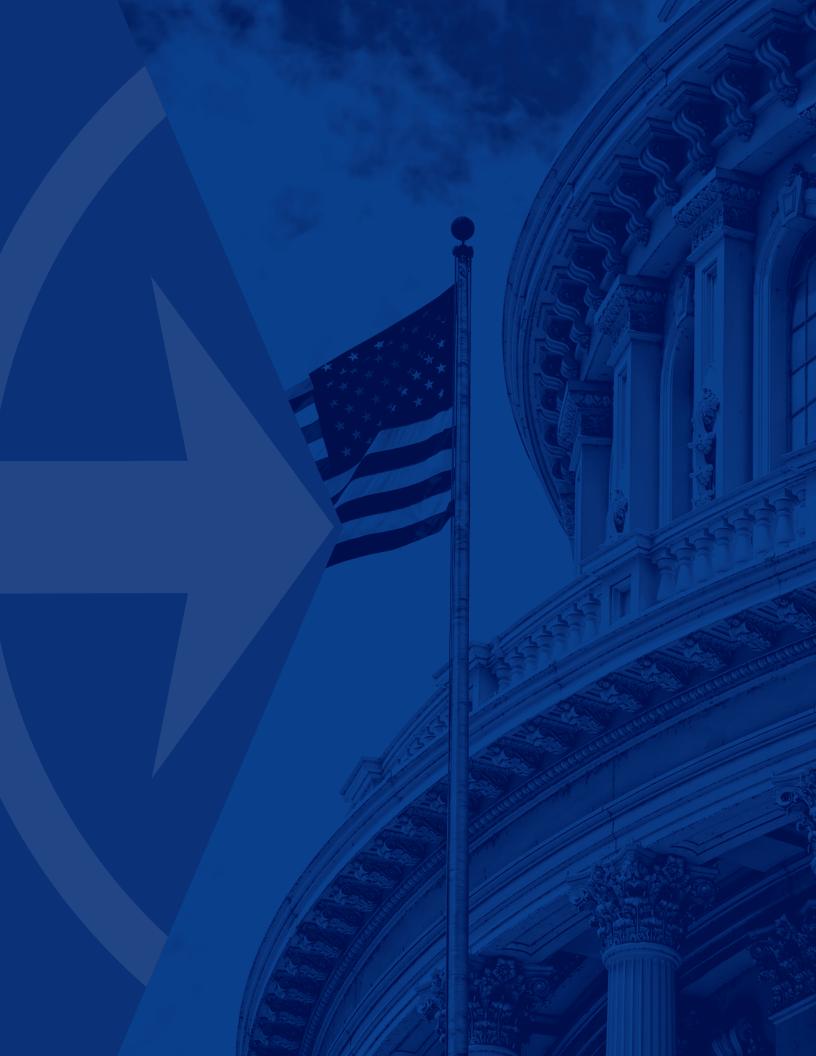




# **Annual Report**

to the President and Congress

Fiscal Year 2024



# **Inspector General Community Fiscal Year 2024 Results**

Federal Offices of Inspector General (OIGs) promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in Government operations and help detect and deter fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement.

In fiscal year (FY) 2024, over 14,000 employees at 73 OIGs conducted audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations. Together, their work resulted in significant improvements to the economy and efficiency of programs Governmentwide, with monetary accomplishments totaling approximately \$71.1 billion:

- \$52.7 billion from audit recommendations.
- \$18.4 billion from investigative receivables and recoveries.

With the OIG community's aggregate FY 2024 budget of approximately \$3.9 billion,<sup>1</sup> these monetary accomplishments represent an approximate **\$18** return on every dollar invested in OIGs.

In FY 2024, OIGs also considerably strengthened programs across the Federal Government through:

- 2,042 Audit, inspection, and evaluation reports issued;
- 20,968 Investigations closed;
- 971,726 Hotline complaints processed;
- 3,917 Indictments and criminal informations;
- 3,675 Successful prosecutions;
- 1,015 Successful civil actions;
- 4,127 Suspensions or debarments; and
- 3,037 Personnel actions in response to OIG findings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This total does not include amounts associated with Intelligence Community OIGs due to the classified nature of their budgets.



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### Message from the Acting Chairperson



Tammy L. Hull Acting Chairperson

On behalf of the members of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), I am pleased to present the Annual Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. The Inspector General (IG) community's effectiveness is reflected in its results. For example, this fiscal year, OIGs collectively identified approximately \$71.1 billion in monetary accomplishments, generating a return of approximately \$18 for every \$1 invested in OIGs through their appropriations.<sup>2</sup> In addition, OIGs collectively issued 2,042 audit, inspection, and evaluation reports, and OIG investigative efforts resulted in 3,675 successful criminal prosecutions and 1,015 successful civil actions.

CIGIE provides crucial assistance as the more than 70 Federal IGs work to fulfill their missions of identifying and preventing fraud, waste, abuse,

and mismanagement. Specifically, CIGIE's statutory mandate is to address cross-cutting Government oversight issues, and to support a well-trained and highly skilled workforce in Federal OIGs. In FY 2024, CIGIE achieved significant results in both areas through its standing committees, including the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC); its working groups; and its Training Institute.

For example, in FY 2024, the Technology Committee issued CIGIE's first-ever capstone report highlighting trends in Federal agencies' cybersecurity performance under the *Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014* (FISMA) for FYs 2020 to 2023. The Audit Committee and the Inspection and Evaluation Committee collaborated on a Monetary Impact Toolkit, designed to aid IGs in the consideration, estimation, and reporting of monetary impact from audit, inspection, and evaluation work, in accordance with the *Inspector General Act*. Further, the PRAC's Pandemic Analytics Center of Excellence (PACE) continued to deliver support to the Federal oversight community, demonstrating the value of expanding data-sharing opportunities across Federal agencies to better prevent and detect fraud in benefits programs before funds are disbursed.

With regard to training and developing the OIG workforce, CIGIE's Training Institute supported more than 10,000 student enrollments in FY 2024 across its three academies that focus on criminal investigations; audits, inspections, and evaluations; and leadership competencies. The Training Institute similarly supported related efforts to strengthen OIG staff through professional development programs.

CIGIE is also committed to supporting independent, objective oversight and working with its Congressional committees of jurisdictions. The Legislation Committee in FY 2024 provided technical assistance to Congress on several matters affecting the IG community and Federal oversight, and it kept CIGIE Members abreast of IG-related matters in Congress.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This total does not include amounts associated with Intelligence Community OIGs due to the classified nature of their budgets.

As this report demonstrates, we are committed to working across the IG community and with our key stakeholders. Doing so will help us meet our shared goals of addressing integrity, economy, and effectiveness issues across Government agencies and increasing Federal OIG professionalism and effectiveness. This, in turn, ultimately benefits the American public by promoting responsive, accountable, and transparent government programs and operations.

**Tammy L. Hull**Acting Chairperson

### Strategic Plan Goals and Accomplishments

CIGIE's Five-Year Strategic Plan set out four major business goals for Fiscal Year 2024. These goals are: (1) enhanced integrity and strength of Federal programs and operations; (2) a well-trained and highly skilled IG community; (3) a focal point for collaboration, best practices, and outreach; and (4) an efficient, well-managed organization. The following reflects CIGIE's FY 2024 accomplishments as they align with each of these goals.

#### Goal 1: Enhanced integrity and strength of Federal programs and operations.

CIGIE was at the center of several cross-agency efforts in FY 2024 that strengthened Federal programs and operations. For example:

In September 2023, the Secretary of Defense announced the commencement of Operation
Atlantic Resolve (OAR) as an overseas contingency operation under 10 U.S.C. § 113(o).
OAR was established in response to the Russia-Ukraine war to enhance U.S. oversight of
Ukraine. Since the beginning of the war, the U.S. Government has been the largest contributor
of assistance, appropriating significant funding for security, humanitarian, and economic aid.
This support has helped Ukraine defend itself against Russia, ensuring its government can
function effectively during the war, and support the people of Ukraine.

Following the commencement of OAR, the Department of Defense (DoD) IG was named Lead IG for OAR by the CIGIE Chairperson. In section 1250B of the FY 2024 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress re-designated the Lead IG as the Special IG (SIG) for OAR expanding its oversight responsibilities and reporting requirements. This change was intended to ensure whole-of-government oversight and transparency of this multifaceted and resource-intensive effort, including the publication of an unclassified quarterly report on a publicly available website.

Led by the DoD OIG, the SIG OAR agencies (DoD, State, and USAID OIGs), the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) website team, planned, developed, and launched www.UkraineOversight.gov. Additionally, the SIG OAR agencies authored the first statutorily required quarterly report to Congress for the operation.

• As in years past, the PRAC continued to play a key role in fostering the integrity and strength of Federal programs and operations. In one example from this past year, the PRAC collaborated with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) OIG to review the Special Financial Assistance (SFA) Program, which was established as part of the American Rescue Plan Act and was designed to protect workers in multiemployer pensions plans (MEPs). A PBGC OIG audit identified improper payments in accepted SFA applications because thousands of deceased participants were included in the plans, resulting in an agreement for pension plans to return more than \$100 million to the Treasury Department in April 2024.

To enhance PBGC OIG efforts to identify questionable SFA applications before payments are issued, the PRAC and PBGC OIG developed risk-scoring models to quickly identify questionable SFA applications for review. The PRAC's data analytics tools helped automate what used to be a manual process for PBGC OIG, and the outcomes were significant. PBGC OIG used a risk-scoring model to conduct focused plan reviews, which led to the withdrawal of four SFA applications, preventing additional improper payments.

CIGIE continued to administer Oversight.gov, an online platform established in 2017 that
serves as a one-stop shop for OIG oversight reports. There are currently over 30,000 total
reports posted to the site, including audit, inspection, and evaluation reports; OIG semiannual
reports; OIG peer reviews, and other OIG publications. In FY 2024 alone, Federal OIGs
uploaded over 2,600 reports to the website that identified approximately \$23 billion dollars in
potential savings to the government.

Oversight.gov also promotes IG independence by hosting websites for OIGs. CIGIE currently hosts 25 OIG websites on the platform, providing OIGs with greater ability to distribute information about their offices and oversight work. The site also tracks IG vacancies, for transparency and accountability purposes.

#### Goal 2: A well-trained and highly skilled IG community.

The CIGIE Training Institute's three academies focus on criminal investigations, audits, inspections, and evaluations, and leadership competencies. In FY 2024, 6,113 students enrolled in Training Institute programs, contributing to 10,185 total enrollments (as one student can enroll in multiple programs). Students attended 277 total CIGIE and Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) trainings and events.

The Training Institute continually enhances its course offerings, with support from the OIG community. For example, the Training Institute conducted a survey of over 1,500 employees from across the Federal audit community to identify the top five audit technical skills needed to effectively perform audit work. As a result of this survey, the Training Institute revised the 40-hour CIGIE Introductory Auditor course. A team of experienced auditors from 14 different OIGs volunteered to support the redesign effort and serve as adjunct instructors.

Over the course of several months, the adjunct instructors supported the redesign of the auditor course and individually committed as much as 100 hours of time researching, designing, and developing new classes. This newly implemented course serves as foundational training for the next generation of federal auditors on how to implement GAO's Government Auditing Standards (or the Yellow Book). The revision and implementation of the new IG-community focused course will ensure that new auditors across the community are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to conduct effective audits that comply with established auditing standards.

Additionally, as in past years, the Training Institute supported capabilities that afforded the OIG workforce access to a broad spectrum of learning opportunities. In FY 2024, that included an expanded coaching and mentoring program; rotational experiences combining learning, apprenticeships, job-shadowing, and stretch assignments; and traditional, formal learning.

# Goal 3: A focal point for collaboration, best practices, outreach, and innovation.

CIGIE continues to support a wide array of IG community activities, including the nine standing committees and their associated subcommittees, as well as subcommittees, working groups, and collaborative bodies of varying sizes and scopes. These entities are dedicated to improving the state of practice within the IG community, addressing significant cross-cutting issues, and increasing awareness in the public domain about the IG mission and responsibilities. Members come from across the IG community and join these organizations according to their functional areas and interests. As a result, the degree of interagency engagement is high, and outcomes of their efforts have a broad impact.

Highlights from this year's work include:

- CIGIE's Toolkit for Identifying and Reporting Monetary Impact, which is the result of significant
  efforts of the Monetary Impact Working Group, comprised of more than 50 individuals
  representing more than 20 OIGs from the Audit and Inspection and Evaluation disciplines.
  The goals of the Toolkit are to promote consistency throughout the IG community in identifying
  and reporting monetary impact in audit, inspection, and evaluation work and to ensure
  stakeholders are accurately informed of the impact of OIG efforts.
- CIGIE's <u>first-ever capstone report</u> highlighting trends in Federal agencies' cybersecurity
  performance under the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA)
  for fiscal years 2020 to 2023. This cross-cutting report, published by CIGIE's Technology
  Committee, marked the first time CIGIE has examined FISMA reports from OIGs across the
  Federal government to identify and analyze common Federal agency challenges.

While Federal agencies have improved their information security programs, the report notes that additional enhancements are needed in the areas of supply chain risk management, cybersecurity risk management, and configuration management. Continued improvements in these areas will better position Federal information security programs to identify, protect, detect, respond, and recover from advanced cybersecurity threats.

# Goal 4: An efficient, well-managed organization that is innovative, resilient, and serves as an exemplar for other government organizations.

CIGIE continued to make significant progress with its operational-modernization initiative in FY 2024. In October 2023, CIGIE transitioned its financial systems to the Interior Business Center (IBC), which provided CIGIE real-time access to its financial data and high confidence in the accuracy of its accounting processes. Additionally, CIGIE continued in FY 2024 to rely on IBC for human resources and payroll functions, and IBC continued to conduct a 100-percent review and validation of all processes and personnel and payroll records.

Regarding information technology and information security management, CIGIE in FY 2024 underwent its first FISMA compliance audit. An independent firm reviewed CIGIE's information and information security controls, in accordance with IG FISMA reporting metrics and performance measures selected by OMB. In FY 2025, CIGIE took steps to further strengthen its information security program.

In FY 2024, CIGIE officially opened its new office and training space, providing the IG community with a dedicated venue for hosting conferences, meetings, trainings, and events. This shared space fostered greater collaboration among CIGIE and OIGs, strengthening engagement across the community. Throughout the year, CIGIE staff developed robust policies and procedures to support the use of the space and and hosted numerous OIGs, ensuring a reliable and well-equipped environment for collective learning and coordination.

CIGIE also continued to meet its statutory responsibilities in FY 2024 to include:

- Maintaining public and business websites for the benefit of the public, stakeholders, and the OIG community;
- Responding to inquiries from the public and stakeholders about CIGIE and OIG activities, including complaints and allegations against IGs;
- · Administering peer review programs that assess OIG compliance with professional standards; and
- Recommending individuals to the appointing authority when IG vacancies occur.

# **CIGIE Committee Accomplishments**

In FY 2024, CIGIE's standing committees undertook a variety of noteworthy initiatives and projects to support and benefit the Federal IG community.

#### **Audit Committee**

In 2024, the Federal Audit Executive Council (FAEC) held five training events and conferences which awarded attendees 32 Continuing Professional Education (CPEs). FAEC's Annual Conference provided training on requirements, best practices, and approaches for financial and performance audits and evaluations in the oversight community. Implementing new GAO Yellow Book requirements to ensure compliance in audits, National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2023 Section 5274 guidance to ensure auditors apply consistent, fair, and transparent reporting processes and assessing agency readiness and requirements for FISMA/zero trust security to address cyber vulnerabilities were some of the discussed topics.

FAEC's Procurement and Financial Statement Audit Network (FSAN) subcommittees also held conferences in 2024, which had over 2,000 registrants and 29 presenters. The Procurement Conference focused on pricing challenges, presented a case study of a recent contract audit, reviewed incurred cost and fraud awareness, and other contract-related topics. The Annual CIGIE/GAO FSAN Conference included presentations on upcoming FISMA changes, the 2024 Yellow Book, and how to incorporate Artificial intelligence (AI) into auditor work.

Trainings were also offered throughout 2024 by the Training and Quality Management Subcommittees. The Training Subcommittee's Connect, Collaborate, and Learn (CCL) held sessions related to risk assessments for annual audit planning and monetary impact, and the Quality Management Subcommittee held sessions on agile assignments, A.I., and internal control standards. FAEC's Conferences and trainings are designed to share knowledge and focus on technical topics of interest to auditors in the oversight community.

The Monetary Impact Toolkit, a collaborative effort between the Audit Committee and the Inspection and Evaluation Committee, was published in June 2024. The Toolkit is designed to aid Federal Offices of Inspectors General (OIGs) in the consideration, estimation, and reporting of monetary impact from audit, inspection, and evaluation work, in accordance with the IG Act. The Toolkit explains monetary impact requirements and types, including questioned, unsupported, and disallowed costs, and recommendations that funds be put to better use if funds could be used more efficiently. It also presents valuable information on quantification methods, best practices, resources, and considerations for monetary impact identification and calculation in OIG work. The Toolkit provides details and example reports for presenting monetary impact in OIG products. Finally, the Toolkit promotes consistency and uniformity in tracking OIG recommendations and results to ensure transparency and resolution under statutory reporting requirements. A training session was offered through CCL (FAEC)

and Upon Further Inspection (I&E Roundtable) to present the contents and Monetary Impact Toolkit and highlight experiences and lessons learned from community experts. This two-and-a-half hour training had over 600 attendees and offered two CPEs.

OMB Circular A-50 requires Federal agencies to designate a top management official to oversee audit follow-up to include developing processes for resolving audit recommendations when considering Inspectors General (IG) reports. The Circular was last updated in 1982, and the oversight community expressed a need for the guidance to clarify roles and responsibilities with respect to the agency and IG, as well as the removal of dated information and inclusion of current and relevant information.

The revision of OMB Circular A-50 required collaboration across agencies, GAO, and CIGIE. FAEC provided over 90 comments from 21 OIGs addressing critical issues and concerns within a 48-hour timeframe. FAEC's comments encouraged OMB to align with the IG Act by making it applicable to inspections and evaluations, as well as audits, and to make explicit that the OIG should have the final decision on recommendation closure. The revised Circular now applies to audit, inspections, and evaluations and is clear that the agency follow-up official will confirm with the IG that the reported action, planned or taken, has been completed. Additionally, the revision provides needed clarification of roles and responsibilities among agency management officials, follow-up officials, IGs, and GAO when resolving recommendations.

#### **Budget Committee**

The Budget Committee prepared the CIGIE Membership for a budget vote on CIGIE's FY 2027 spending plan that was completed in advance of the fiscal year as the OIGs drafted their own FY 2026 budget requests. The committee also committed to maintain CIGIE funding at 0.40 percent of OIG budgets for a second consecutive year. Further, the Budget Committee continued improved transparency of information relating to CIGIE's budgeted revenue and expense line items.

#### Inspection and Evaluation (I&E) Committee

The Inspection and Evaluation (I&E) Committee continued its success in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 with impactful accomplishments and activities in a growing I&E community. The I&E Committee membership consists of 16 Inspectors General who meet quarterly. Within the I&E Committee, there was strong membership participation, collaboration, and knowledge sharing, with continued outreach to encourage the expansion of I&E across OIGs. The I&E Committee had five working groups during FY 2024 to support several major ongoing initiatives. These working groups have helped move the IG community forward through their work and continue to be a resource to OIG staff on cross-cutting issues. The I&E Committee also has a robust I&E Roundtable, which met quarterly and consisted of members from almost all Federal OIGs. During FY 2024, the I&E Committee and the I&E Roundtable held a joint annual meeting that enabled collaboration and coordination. Further, I&E Roundtable members presented at the 2024 Association of Inspectors General Annual Training Conference to Federal, State, and local OIGs to promote the value of I&E products for oversight.

The I&E Committee includes several Working Groups that worked to strengthen I&E operations in the IG community in FY 2024. For example, the Peer Review Working Group, which manages the I&E peer review process for the I&E Committee, provided training to approximately 50 I&E professionals during FY 2024. Further, following previous years' efforts, the new I&E peer review rating system went

into effect for all I&E peer reviews beginning April 2024. The new rating system provides additional clarity to stakeholders and consistency with audit peer review ratings. The transition to the new rating system was supported through updated training materials and assistance for training participants conducting peer reviews. Separately, the Training Working Group continued the development and delivery of I&E specific training, including two sessions in the training series, "Upon Further Inspection." The first training session was on the Quality Control standard in the Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation with approximately 400 attendees. The second training session was a joint session with the Audit Committee's training team on identifying and reporting monetary impacts. This event not only trained over 1,000 audit, inspection, and evaluation staff, but also encouraged collaboration amongst the variety of OIG disciplines.

In FY 2024, the I&E Committee continued to lead important initiatives to encourage communication and collaboration within the I&E community. For example, the Expansion Working Group grew to 48 participants from 32 different OIGs. This Working Group was started in 2023 to build a network of professionals that are building or expanding the use of I&E in their offices. Offices that are new to I&E are paired with experienced I&E professionals to share information on how to establish a unit and implement best practices. In addition, the I&E Survey Working Group initiated, analyzed, and reported the results of an OIG-wide survey that produced informative metrics for the IG community on staffing levels, work production, the composition of multi-disciplinary teams, and other information on the use of I&E. The survey showed positive Federal I&E trends since 2020, including a 37 percent increase in FTEs performing I&E work. This growth underscores the value of the I&E Committee's efforts to train and support I&E units. The survey had an encouraging participation rate of 89 percent of OIGs.

The I&E Committee, in conjunction with the Audit Committee, continued to support the final efforts of the Monetary Impact Working Group. Since its inception, this Working Group has identified best practices and key topics related to calculating and reporting monetary impact across the IG community. In June 2024, the Monetary Impact Working Group released a toolkit to promote consistency, effectiveness, and efficiency in the IG community. To build the toolkit, the team reviewed and analyzed data collected from internal OIG policies and procedures, reports, and Semiannual Reports to Congress. They also surveyed offices on monetary impact processes. The toolkit represented a cumulative effort of the Monetary Impact Working Group's years of work.

#### **Integrity Committee (IC)**

The IC received 3,471 incoming communications, which were screened to remove duplicates, objectively unreliable information, and complaints outside of the IC's authority. The remaining communications resulted in 141 cases; of those cases, 68 were closed, 45 were referred to another agency, and 28 remain pending.

The IC completed one investigation in FY 2024 and issued an interim report for another:

- The IC determined the allegations against an Assistant Inspector General for Investigations were not substantiated.
- For the first time, the IC took the unprecedented step of issuing an interim report before the
  conclusion of an investigation. However, due to issues related to the subject's interactions
  with the IC during the investigation, the IC determined it was important to issue its findings
  to the President without delay. The result of the investigation into the remaining allegations
  will be reported at a later date.

The IC conducted the following outreach efforts with its stakeholders:

- CIGIE IG 101. This monthly presentation, offered to new and acting IGs, describes the
  composition of the IC, its jurisdiction, and processes. It also explains an IG's responsibility for
  reporting allegations to the IC and the IC's expectation of cooperation and full access to OIG
  documents and witnesses during an IC investigation.
- Congressional Briefings. Among other engagements, the IC staff briefed Congressional staff on the IC's findings and recommendations on particular investigations.

#### **Investigations Committee**

The Investigations Committee's Policy Developers Working Group assembled a working group comprised of individuals from 14 OIGs, who were tasked with updating CIGIE's Quality Standards for Investigations, which were last updated in 2011; and CIGIE's Quality Assessment Review Guidelines for Investigations, which were last updated in 2017. This working group spent significant time revising the documents based on changes in laws and Executive Orders, and it is anticipated that the revised documents will be approved effective for the beginning of FY 2026.

The Investigation Committee's Training Working Group partnered with CIGIE's IG Criminal Investigator Training Academy on various topics, including a joint initiative to increase OIG access to seats for OIG investigators in advanced courses at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Doing so significantly reduced the number of waitlisted OIG students in critical classes, illustrated by a nearly 80 percent reduction in waitlisted students for one use-of-force instructor-certification course alone. The Training Working Group also delivered webinar training to hundreds of geographically dispersed OIG investigators and other staff, including hosting a widely attended webinar by the Office of Government Ethics on conducting ethics investigations. Plans are underway to sponsor additional webinar and in-person training during FY 2025 related to use of force de-escalation, internet investigations, continuing legal education, and other topics.

Multiple agencies within the IG community developed a working group to facilitate discussion on specific topics relating to sexual assault investigations. The working group will provide opportunities for guest speakers to facilitate the discussion not limited to interviewing strategies, investigative trends, investigative procedures, case management, and victimology, as well as encourage discussion and collaboration among participants.

In addition to the above, the Investigations Committee continued to bring timely and relevant training and discussion topics to executive law enforcement leadership of the respective IGs. This included the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division providing guidance on the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) and ensuring compliance with the reporting to NICS. These discussions and educational topics help to maintain the integrity and efficiency of the investigative work and reporting that is required of the IG community.

#### **Legislation Committee**

The enactment on December 23, 2024, of the *Administrative False Claims Act* (AFCA) as part of the *Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year* 2025 (Public Law No. 118-159) fulfilled a longstanding proposal of the IG community: substantial reform of the *Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act* (PFCRA). Sponsored by Senators Charles Grassley and Richard Durbin, AFCA modernizes an important tool agencies use to fight fraud committed against the Federal government by facilitating the ability of agencies to recover taxpayer funds and seek damages when a person knowingly presents to the government a false, fictitious, or fraudulent claim for payment. The law increases the dollar amount of claims subject to the PFCRA; revises the Statute of Limitations to be consistent with AFCA; allows PFCRA recovery for "reverse false claims" cases in which a party withholds information material to that party's obligation to pay the Government; adds a definition of "material" to PFCRA that is similar to AFCA; revises the definition of Hearing Officials; and allows agencies to retain PFCRA recoveries to the extent needed to make them whole.

The enactment on November 25, 2024, of the *GAO Inspector General Parity Act* (Public Law No. 118-131) aligns with one of CIGIE's legislative proposals for the 118th Congress: seeking parity for legislative branch IGs with their executive counterparts, in part by ensuring the same protections afforded IGs established by the *Inspector General Act of 1978* also apply to legislative branch IGs.

The law requires notification to Congress of a decision to put the IG of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) on paid or unpaid, non-duty status. Specifically, if the IG is removed from office or transferred to another position or location within GAO, GAO must communicate in writing the substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons, for any such removal or transfer to both chambers of Congress not later than 30 days before the removal or transfer. Only the Comptroller General may place the IG on non-duty status, subject to specified requirements. GAO must include the annual budget request of the IG in the GAO budget without change. The IG shall obtain legal advice from a counsel reporting directly to the IG or another IG. The Legislation Committee continues to work with Congress to obtain this protection for the Government Publishing Office, Architect of the Capitol, Library of Congress, and U.S. Capitol Police IGs.

The Legislation Committee provided technical assistance to Congress on several other matters affecting the IG community and Federal oversight. Beyond the legislative priorities and recommendations, the Committee advised Congress on a number of issues, including FISMA reform, payment integrity, Inspector General pay, and Section 5274 of the 2002 NDAA. It also kept CIGIE members abreast of IG-related matters in Congress via a multitude of platforms, including monthly committee meetings and newsletters. The Legislation Committee developed, coordinated, and represented official IG-community positions on legislative issues and provided technical assistance to Congress through regular and ongoing communication regarding legislative issues and other matters of common interest between Congress and CIGIE.

The Committee provided Congress a list of legislative mandates applying community-wide and those applying to individual IGs. In the case of IG-community mandates, the Committee proposed elimination of the Geospatial Act mandate and modification of an IG part of PPIA. The list of mandates for individual IGs included proposals for repeal, modification, and points of contacts so that Congressional staff could reach out to the IGs involved on these proposals. The Committee will continue to work with Congress to reform IG mandates where appropriate so that IGs can perform risk-based oversight that tackles the highest-priority management and performance challenges.

#### Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC)

In FY 2024, the PRAC issued six oversight products. In March 2024, the PRAC released a product that compiles highlights from its 2023 Agile Oversight Forum titled, Agile Oversight in a Time of Crisis:

Lessons Learned and Best Practices in Conducting Oversight During the COVID-19 Pandemic. The PRAC also issued Pandemic Relief Experiences: A Focus on Six Communities that summarizes the observations of its oversight work with 10 of the PRAC member OIGs examining how six communities used emergency relief funds and whether the Federal aid helped the communities. The PRAC looked at 22 Federal programs and subprograms to see if the communities' use of the funds aligned with pandemic program goals and objectives. We issued separate reports for three of six locations focusing on the specific programs and subprograms, including Springfield, MA, Coeur d'Alene, ID, and Sheridan County, NE. In April 2024, the PRAC released Why Unemployment Insurance Fraud Surged During the Pandemic—a report shedding light on the unprecedented levels of fraud in unemployment insurance (UI) benefits during the pandemic.

The PRAC Fraud Task Force, composed of more than 50 agents from 16 OIGs, continues to be a critical investigative component in the government's fight against fraud in pandemic programs. For example, as of December 2024, it has helped criminally charge 111 subjects and assisted the Federal government in recovering over \$16 million in restitution, seizures, forfeitures, civil settlements, and voluntary repayments. The Pandemic Analytics Center of Excellence (PACE) serves as a key contributor to both the PRAC Fraud Task Force and DOJ's COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement Task Force (CFETF) by using advanced analytics tools that incorporate multiple pandemic program data sources to uncover suspicious network activity and identify anomalies that may indicate fraud. As of May 2024, the efforts of the DOJ's CFETF member agencies have led to criminal charges against more than 3,500 defendants for losses of over \$2 billion, civil enforcement actions resulting in more than 400 civil settlements and judgments of over \$100 million, and over \$1.4 billion seized or forfeited. As of November 2024, the PACE has provided investigative support to more than 49 federal law enforcement and OIG partners on 1,009 pandemic-related investigations with over 23,000 subjects and a potential fraud loss of \$2.3 billion.

The PRAC's data analytics center continues to deliver impactful analytic, audit, and investigative support to the oversight and law enforcement communities. The work of its data scientists and data analytics platform have been instrumental in advancing our efforts to identify improper and fraudulent activity in pandemic programs. For instance, the PRAC has used graph analytics to generate investigative leads for the DOJ CFETF, with a focus on leads involving potential fraud rings and/or organized crime activity. Further, it built an analytic model for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation OIG that was used to identify overpayments of pandemic relief funds resulting in a return of \$135 million to the U.S. Treasury. The PACE developed (1) a dashboard to support Treasury OIG that auditors used to evaluate the risk associated with prime and subrecipients of Coronavirus Relief Funds, leading to \$2.2 billion in questioned costs, and (2), entity resolution models that enabled the PACE to create accurate risk profiles for recipients of pandemic funds and identify potentially high-risk entities. We also built a data sharing and risk analytics product for the oversight community called the Analytic Center Pilot, which shares data and analytic insights with partner OIGs in a secure centralized platform.

The PRAC launched the Blueprint for Enhanced Program Integrity, a comprehensive capstone research project that compiles recommendations and insights issued by the IG community, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), memoranda from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and testimony to Congress. The purpose of the project is to share lessons learned and best

practices from the billions lost to improper payments and fraud in the pandemic to help strengthen Federal programs, enhance stewardship, and ensure that taxpayer-funded programs and assistance are timely delivered to communities that need them. The Blueprint focuses on the necessary controls that must be in place to protect critical programs from improper payments and fraud. The Blueprint is organized into chapters with insights from reports with recommendations related to the pandemic:

<u>Chapter One: Best Practices for Strengthening Federal Program</u> outlines key recommendations related to the development, implementation, and maintenance of strong internal controls.

Chapter Two: *Opportunities for Policymakers to Improve Program* Integrity outlines strategies that can be adopted when drafting legislation and policy to deter and prevent fraud.

<u>Chapter Three: Fraud Prevention and Detection</u> outlines leading practices for designing and implementing programs to detect and prevent fraud.

#### **Professional Development Committee**

The Professional Development Committee wrapped up another stellar year marked by growth, partnerships, and engagement. The subcommittees (Coaching, Fellows, Leadership Forum, Leadership Innovation, LIFT, and Mentoring) are staffed with dedicated, selfless volunteers representing agencies in the IG community across all levels. The professional and leadership development programs, activities, and initiatives created and supported by the Committee again fostered community and connected so many. Shaping the future of the Committee was the creation and publication of its updated Mission and Vision.

#### **MISSION**

To connect and develop oversight professionals, inspire a culture of community and leadership, and enhance the impact of our work.

#### **VISION**

Unleash the potential of every oversight professional and cultivate leadership across the IG community.

The Committee launched Phase 3 of the CIGIE Mentoring Program Pilot on September 5, 2024. New this year was CIGIE's procurement of the mentoring software used to match mentors with mentees. This allowed greater customization and control over the matching process. Phase 3 again included opportunities for mentees to assess their progress and to reset or refresh their goals. Mentors participated in meetings that focused on best practices, challenges, resources, and mentor networking. The mentoring team also provided learning events on networking and the benefits of details. Phase 3 matched nearly 400 OIG professionals representing over 50 agencies, with participants from the United States, El Salvador, Germany, and Puerto Rico. The Mentoring Program will excitedly drop "Pilot" from the program 2025, offering the IG community a recurring mentoring program that will continue to connect professionals with dedicated mentors and enhance our devotement, culture, and community.

After a successful pilot year in 2023, the Committee fully launched the CIGIE Executive Core Qualifications (ECQ) Review Board in 2024. New for 2024 was the recruitment and placement of a Director and Deputy Director, two volunteer senior executives tasked with review board leadership and

oversight. The purpose of the review board is for a cadre of Senior Executive Service (SES) volunteers to provide meaningful review and feedback of draft ECQs of SES candidates in the IG community prior to initial application or submission (or re-submission) to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Qualifications Review Board (QRB) for certification. The vision is SES candidate enhancement through community, engagement, volunteerism, and proven expertise with a goal to expand the pool of qualified SES candidates and assist disadvantaged qualified candidates and smaller agencies who may not have the funds to pay for outside assistance. The ECQ Review Board launched in 2024 with 10 review board volunteers, having reviewed 15 ECQ applications in the first quarter after launch.

The Committee also had another great year of matching IG-community professionals with Federal executive coaches. The 2024 matching cycle included:

- · Currently 22 certified coaches in the IG community
- Developed a large, recently expanded network of other Federal coaches
- · Received 170 requests for coaching
- Matched 40 applicants with OIG coaches
- · Matched 130 applicants with coaches in the Federal government

The Committee also partnered with OPM to hold space for one participant from the IG community in its next Federal Internal Coach Training Program cohort in 2025.

#### **Technology Committee**

The Technology Committee continued collaboration across the IG community and with Federal stakeholders on a broad range of endeavors. This year, the Oversight.gov Subcommittee completed the launch of the redesigned Oversight.gov website, the Cybersecurity Working Group continued to publish its CIGIE-award-winning periodic newsletters to keep the community informed about this important risk area, and the Small OIG Working Group collaborated on demonstrations for audit tools for the community.

The Federal Audit Executive Council Information Technology (IT) Subcommittee issued CIGIE's first-ever Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA) capstone report, highlighting trends and challenges in cybersecurity performance across the federal government. Subcommittee members received a CIGIE Award for Excellence in IT for this groundbreaking work.

The Committee created an AI Working Group this year, based on high interest from the community in this area. The AI working group has three focus areas: demystifying AI, use of AI for oversight, and conducting oversight of AI.

The Committee also hosted its 5th Annual Symposium on October 8, 2024, which included discussions on AI, the continuous diagnostics and mitigation program, digital fraud, FedRAMP, and the PRAC Analytics Center Pilot supported by the Data Analytics Working Group. The virtual symposium was attended by over 1,700 oversight professionals from across the government.

# **OIG Statistical Accomplishments**

Collectively, CIGIE's member OIGs achieved significant monetary accomplishments impacting programs Governmentwide in FY 2024. OIG audits, investigations, inspections, and evaluations helped Federal agency managers strengthen program integrity and use funds more effectively and efficiently. Over the years, CIGIE has compiled statistics to measure these accomplishments quantitatively. FY 2024 results are presented in aggregate in the following tables.

Figure 1: FY 2024 IG Community Accomplishments

Area	Total
Recommendations: Funds to be put to better use	\$26,406,025,762
Recommendations: Questioned costs	\$26,354,963,352
Audit, inspection, and evaluation reports	2,042
Investigative receivables and recoveries	\$18,419,961,235
Successful criminal prosecutions	3,675
Indictments and criminal information	3,917
Successful civil actions	1,015
Suspensions and debarments	4,127
Personnel actions	3,037

#### **Audit-Related Accomplishments**

OIG audit reports generally provide agency management with recommendations on ways to improve their operations. These recommendations include enhancing management practices and procedures, offering ways to better use agency funds, and questioning actual expenditures.

Agency management either agrees or disagrees, in whole or in part, with these recommendations. Many recommendations are qualitative and do not specify quantitative savings. However, other recommendations are quantitative, and associated dollar amounts can be captured from year to year. The IG Act establishes a uniform set of statistical categories under which OIGs must report the quantitative results of their audit activities. See 5 U.S.C. § 405.

The categories used in the next two tables correspond to the IG Act's reporting requirements. The total accomplishments include results associated with audits performed by the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) under agreements with OIGs and agencies. Due to reporting processes, the results of audits performed by DCAA and corresponding management decisions may be reported by more than

one OIG. Recommendations that funds be put to better use tell agency management that taking action to implement the recommendations would result in the more efficient or effective use of funds. Such actions could include reducing outlays, deobligating funds, and avoiding unnecessary expenditures.

Figure 2 describes the total amount of funds that could be used more efficiently if agencies took actions to implement and complete the recommendation. by OIGs in FY 2015 through FY 2024.

Figure 3 provides related information for the fiscal years concerning questioned costs. Specifically, it describes the total amount of questioned costs listed in OIG recommendations for FY 2015 through FY 2024.

Figure 2. Recommendations That Funds Be Put to Better Use

Reporting Year	In Recommendations (\$)
FY 2024	26,406,025,762
FY 2023	74,642,014,859
FY 2022	47,393,696,795
FY 2021	55,631,860,897
FY 2020	16,495,965,958
FY 2019	14,604,979,396
FY 2018	21,108,997.187
FY 2017 <sup>†</sup>	22,108,497,297
FY 2016	22,652,457,701
FY 2015	31,445,225,376
TOTAL	311,401,833,038

 $<sup>^\</sup>dagger$  As of FY 2017, amounts do not account for DCAA audit results not conducted on behalf of an OIG, as prior years have included.

**Figure 3. Total Questioned Costs** 

Reporting Year	In Recommendations (\$)
FY 2024	26,354,963,352
FY 2023	7,548,575,725
FY 2022	16,146,556,329
FY 2021	7,026,143,893
FY 2020	16,772,781,337
FY 2019	14,629,218,186
FY 2018	12,901,148,798
FY 2017 <sup>†</sup>	10,560,234,785
FY 2016	17,717,970,095
FY 2015	16,657,413,296
TOTAL	146,315,005,796

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> Beginning in FY 2017, amounts do not account for DCAA audit results not conducted on behalf an OIG, as prior years have included.

#### **Investigation-Related Accomplishments**

Investigative work often involves several law enforcement agencies working on the same case. OIGs may conduct cases with other OIGs, other Federal law enforcement agencies, and State or local law enforcement entities. The following investigative statistics have been compiled using a methodology that attempts to eliminate duplicate reporting by multiple OIGs. As a result, these consolidated statistics differ from the collective totals for the equivalent categories in individual OIG semiannual reports. The joint OIG investigations statistics include investigations that were worked on with other Federal OIGs.

Investigative receivables and recoveries reflect the results of criminal and civil cases that were ordered plus any voluntary repayments during the fiscal year (see Figure 4). In criminal cases, the dollar value reflects the restitution, criminal fines, and special assessments resulting from successful criminal prosecutions. The dollar value in civil cases reflects the total damages, penalties, settlements, and forfeitures resulting from successful civil actions. Voluntary repayments include the amount paid

by the subject of an investigation or the value of Government property recovered before prosecutorial action was taken. These totals do not reflect the dollar amounts associated with recovered items with value that cannot be readily determined, such as original historical documents and cultural artifacts.

Figure 4. Investigative Receivables and Recoveries

Reporting Year	OIG Investigations (\$)	Joint OIG Investigations (\$)	Totals (\$)
FY 2024	6,932,640,611	11,487,320,623	18,419,961,235
FY 2023	6,761,268,757	4,170,673,428	10,931,942,185
FY 2022	4,043,669,177	2,539,172,802	6,582,841,979
FY 2021	10,730,051,300	1,329,325,900	12,059,377,200
FY 2020	6,967,183,004	12,764,468,941	19,731,651,945
FY 2019	6,959,697,791	4,623,055,232	11,582,753,023
FY 2018	13,660,516,149	1,673,589,091	15,334,105,240
FY 2017	19,095,404,779	2,850,917,741	21,946,322,520
FY 2016	8,702,641,738	11,203,019,896	19,905,661,634
FY 2015	7,295,377,088	2,980,458,582	10,275,835,670
TOTAL	91,148,450,394	55,622,002,236	146,779,452,604

**Successful criminal prosecutions** listed in Figure 5 include matters in which the subjects were convicted in Federal, State, local, or foreign courts or under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or were accepted for pretrial diversion agreements by the DOJ or other equivalents within State or local governments.

Figure 5. Successful Criminal Prosecutions

Reporting Year	OIG Investigations	Joint OIG Investigations	Totals (\$)
FY 2024	2,916	759	3,675
FY 2023	3,189	1,129	4,318
FY 2022	3,579	1,150	4,729
FY 2021	3,142	471	3,613
FY 2020	2,798	669	3,467
FY 2019	4,776	868	5,644
FY 2018	3,520	451	3,971
FY 2017	3,534	849	4,383
FY 2016	3,917	977	4,894
FY 2015	4,778	775	5,553
TOTAL	36,149	8,098	44,247

*Indictments and criminal informations* comprise those filed in Federal, State, local, or foreign courts or under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Figure 6 contains related information report for FY 2015 through FY 2024.

**Figure 6. Indictments and Criminal Informations** 

Reporting Year	OIG Investigations	Joint OIG Investigations	Totals
FY 2024	3,179	738	3,917
FY 2023	3,214	1,477	4,691
FY 2022	3,388	1,420	4,808
FY 2021	3,716	581	4,297
FY 2020	3,165	917	4,082
FY 2019	3,643	548	4,191
FY 2018	3,931	531	4,462
FY 2017	3,786	963	4,749
FY 2016	4,139	981	5,120
FY 2015	4,890	827	5,717
TOTAL	37,051	8,983	46,034

**Successful civil actions** are those resolved through legal or legal-related actions other than criminal prosecution, include civil judgments, settlements, agreements or settlements in cases governed by the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act, or other agency-specific civil litigation authority, including civil money penalties (see Figure 7).

Figure 7. Successful Civil Actions

Reporting Year	OIG Investigations	Joint OIG Investigations	Totals
FY 2024	807	208	1,015
FY 2023	822	284	1,106
FY 2022	924	336	1,260
FY 2021	888	170	1,058
FY 2020	949	317	1,266
FY 2019	985	303	1,288
FY 2018	969	191	1,160
FY 2017	1,304	167	1,471
FY 2016	1,305	275	1,580
FY 2015	1,533	328	1,861
TOTAL	10,486	2,579	13,065

**Suspension and debarment actions** include proceedings by Federal agencies to suspend, debar, or exclude parties from contracts, grants, loans, and other forms of financial or nonfinancial transactions with the Government (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Suspensions and Debarments

Reporting Year	OIG Investigations	Joint OIG Investigations	Totals
FY 2024	3,698	429	4,127
FY 2023	2,497	410	2,907
FY 2022	2,759	445	3,204
FY 2021	2,252	184	2,436
FY 2020	2,943	1,203	4,146
FY 2019	3,388	664	4,052
FY 2018	3,528	257	3,785
FY 2017	4,131	491	4,622
FY 2016	6,101	347	6,448
FY 2015	6,813	431	7,244
TOTAL	38,110	4,861	42,971

**Personnel actions** include reprimands, suspensions, demotions, or terminations of Federal, State, or local government employees or of Federal contractors and grantees (see Figure 9).

Figure 9. Personnel Actions

Reporting Year	OIG Investigations	Joint OIG Investigations	Totals
FY 2024	2,939	98	3,037
FY 2023	3,107	80	3,187
FY 2022	3,174	109	3,283
FY 2021	3,341	48	3,389
FY 2020	3,570	117	3,687
FY 2019	3,949	206	4,155
FY 2018	4,543	121	4,664
FY 2017	2,953	1,133	4,086
FY 2016	4,201	114	4,315
FY 2015	4,382	119	4,501
TOTAL	36,159	2,145	38,304

## **CIGIE Awards Recipients**

In November 2024, CIGIE hosted the Federal IG community's 27th annual awards ceremony. CIGIE presented 80 Awards for Excellence in areas such as auditing, evaluations, employee integrity, government ethics, information technology, inspections, investigations, and management to individuals and teams from CIGIE's 73 member OIGs. CIGIE also recognized a limited number of individuals and teams with prestigious Special Category Awards.

The Alexander Hamilton Award, CIGIE's highest honor, was presented to the Department of Agriculture (USDA) OIG's team that contributed to the integrity of the Black Farmers Discrimination Litigation and the Hispanic and Women Farmers and Ranchers Claims. USDA OIG led an investigation that resulted in the successful prosecution of seven defendants who defrauded these critical, minority-serving programs. The defendants were sentenced to a cumulative total of 136 months' incarceration and ordered to pay over \$11.5 million in restitution.

The Gaston L. Gianni, Jr. Better Government Award recognizes an individual or group whose efforts, accomplishments, and actions enhance the public's confidence in government and exemplify the highest ideals of public service. The General Services Administration (GSA) OIG received this year's award for uncovering a significant procurement fraud and corruption case. GSA OIG found that a former U.S. Air Force employee and the owners of government-contracting firms conspired in a bribery scheme that spanned more than a decade and involved GSA contracts valued at over \$400 million. The investigation resulted in six criminal convictions, more than \$88 million in monetary recoveries for the government, and more than 34 years of combined incarceration for the defendants.

The Glenn/Roth Award for Exemplary Service, which honors work of significant value to Congress, was presented to the Department of Defense (DoD) OIG, in recognition of leading outstanding joint contributions to launch UkraineOversight.gov and issue the first statutorily required report of the U.S. whole-of-government response to the Russia-Ukraine war.

The Barry R. Snyder Joint Award honors multi-agency collaborations on matters of importance to the IG community. This year the award was presented to a team of individuals from 14 OIGs who worked to redesign and facilitate the CIGIE Training Institute's Introductory Auditor course. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) OIG nominated the team and accepted the award.

The Sentner Award for Dedication and Courage was presented to Thomas Martin and Breanna Noll, of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) OIG, in recognition of their presence of mind and sense of duty when they responded to a violent incident while traveling for the government.

The June Gibbs Brown Career Achievement Award was presented to Reginald Allen, the Director of the Computer Security and Information Technology Audit Office for the Department of Justice (DOJ) OIG, posthumously, in recognition of significant and sustained contributions throughout his 33-year career. Mr. Allen passed away in January 2024, and he is remembered for his unmatched dedication to enhancing the IG community's impact on the government's IT management and security.

The Award for Individual Accomplishment was presented to Christian Schrank, Deputy Inspector General for Investigations for the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) OIG, in recognition of consistent and substantial contributions to the CIGIE community's law enforcement efforts through his leadership of the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations Working Group.

# Appendix A: IG Community Background

#### **OIG Community History**

The *Inspector General Act of 1978* (IG Act) initially consolidated the audit and investigative functions in 12 Federal agencies under their respective Inspectors General (IGs). The Offices of the Inspector General (OIGs) were tasked with promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within their respective agencies' operations, in addition to detecting and investigating fraud, waste, and abuse in their agencies' programs. The IG Act established a dual reporting responsibility, whereby IGs report both to the head of their respective agency and to Congress. The OIGs' semiannual reports to Congress, which summarize noteworthy activity and management actions on significant OIG recommendations, are examples of this reporting responsibility, as are the testimonies on various matters that IGs provide to Congress. This relationship with Congress helps strengthen IGs' independence.

Recognizing the OIGs' effectiveness, Congress repeatedly expanded the IG concept beyond the original 12 agencies. The largest expansion occurred in the 1988 amendments to the IG Act, which created IGs in most Federal Government agencies, including certain independent agencies, corporations, and other Federal entities. Subsequent legislation has established IGs in additional agencies, including special IGs to oversee specific initiatives.

IGs are either nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate or appointed by their respective agency head, with one IG appointed by the President without Senate confirmation. By statute, IGs are required to be selected without regard to political affiliation and solely based on personal integrity and professional expertise.

#### **Bringing Collaboration and Autonomy to the OIG Community**

In 1981, President Ronald Reagan issued Executive Order No. 12301, which created the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) to provide a forum for the presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed IGs to coordinate their professional activities. In May 1992, Executive Order No. 12805, issued by President George H. W. Bush, created the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency (ECIE) for agency appointed IGs to work together. Both councils were chaired by OMB's Deputy Director for Management (DDM), who reported to the President on their activities.

The *IG Reform Act of 2008*, enacted October 14, 2008, amended the IG Act to further strengthen IG independence and enhance IG operations. The Act also created CIGIE by combining the PCIE and ECIE into one IG Council. The legislation provided CIGIE with authorities and responsibilities beyond those of the PCIE and ECIE, including recommending candidates for vacant IG positions and overseeing an Integrity Committee responsible for handling allegations of misconduct by IGs and high-level OIG officials.

In December 2016, the President signed into law the *Inspector General Empowerment Act of 2016* (IGEA), which clarified that Federal IGs are entitled to full and prompt access to agency records, with a few enumerated exceptions. Congress included this provision in response to past refusals by certain agencies to provide their IGs with independent access to certain information that was available to the agency and relevant to ongoing oversight work by the IG. Other important provisions allow IGs to match data across agencies to help uncover wasteful spending and enhance the public's access to information about misconduct among senior Government employees.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), enacted March 27, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, resulted in the establishment of the of CIGIE's PRAC. This organization has been chartered to conduct oversight responsibilities for 5 years, ending in FY 2025.

Finally, the *National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)* of 2023 included several provisions that enhanced the institutional independence of IGs. The NDAA strengthened IG independence by reforming the *Federal Vacancies Reform Act* to provide that the first assistant to the position of IG assumes the role of acting IG if there were an IG vacancy. Alternatively, the reform provides that the President may direct a senior officer or employee of an OIG or another presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed IG to serve as an acting IG in a temporary capacity. If so, the President must notify Congress within 30 days before the direction takes effect. The NDAA also provided that Congress must be notified not only when an IG is removed or transferred but when an IG is placed on non-duty status. The NDAA bolstered the requirements for notice to Congress by specifically requiring the notice to be in writing and communicate the "substantive rationale, including detailed and case-specific reasons" for the removal or change in status. This applies to both presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed IGs and designated Federal entity IGs.

#### CIGIE's Role and Structure

The *IG Reform Act of 2008* established CIGIE as the unified council of all statutory IGs to provide Governmentwide coordination of and focus on OIG activities. In FY 2024, CIGIE had 73 Federal IG members and the following 6 Federal leaders: the Deputy Director for Management (DDM), OMB, who serves as the CIGIE's Executive Chairperson; the Deputy Director, OPM; Special Counsel, U.S. Office of Special Counsel; a senior-level official of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) designated by the Director of the FBI; Director, Office of Government Ethics; and the Controller of the Office of Federal Financial Management, OMB.

In FY 2024, the Honorable Jason Miller was the DDM of the OMB and served as CIGIE's Executive Chairperson. CIGIE was led by its elected Chairperson, the Honorable Mark Lee Greenblatt, Inspector General for the Department of the Interior, its Vice Chairperson, Tammy Hull, Inspector General for the U.S. Postal Service, and the other members of the CIGIE Executive Council. The Executive Council provides leadership, collaborative vision, and long-term planning for the IG community.

## **Appendix B: Federal OIGs**

CIGIE's website provides contact information for most OIGs, including links to each OIG's website: Inspectors General Directory | Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency; IGnet.

The following OIGs are established pursuant to the IG Act.

#### **OIGs in Establishment Agencies**

Agency for International Development

Corporation for National and Community Service (AmeriCorps)

Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of Defense

Department of Education

Department of Energy

Department of Health and Human Services

Department of Homeland Security

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of the Interior

Department of Justice

Department of Labor

Department of State

Department of Transportation

Department of the Treasury

Department of Veterans Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

Export-Import Bank of the United States

Federal Communications Commission

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Federal Housing Finance Agency

General Services Administration

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

National Reconnaissance Office

National Security Agency

Office of Personnel Management

**Small Business Administration** 

Social Security Administration

Tennessee Valley Authority

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board

#### **OIGs in Designated Federal Entities**

#### Amtrak

Appalachian Regional Commission

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (AbilityOne Commission)

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Consumer Product Safety Commission

Corporation for Public Broadcasting

Defense Intelligence Agency

Denali Commission

Election Assistance Commission

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Farm Credit Administration

Federal Election Commission

Federal Labor Relations Authority

Federal Maritime Commission

Federal Trade Commission

Legal Services Corporation

National Archives and Records Administration

National Credit Union Administration

National Endowment for the Arts

National Endowment for the Humanities

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

National Labor Relations Board

National Science Foundation

Peace Corps

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Smithsonian Institution

U.S. International Development Finance Corporation

U.S. International Trade Commission

U.S. Postal Service

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

#### **Other OIGs**

There are also OIGs established pursuant to statutes other than the IG Act. These statutes may incorporate some, but not necessarily all, of the provisions of the IG Act.

OIG	Authorizing Legislation
Architect of the Capitol	2 U.S.C. § 1808
Central Intelligence Agency	50 U.S.C. § 3517
Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community	50 U.S.C. § 3033
Library of Congress	2 U.S.C. § 185
Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction	National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-181, § 1229(b) (Jan. 2008)
Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020, Pub. L. No. 116-136, § 4018 (Mar. 27, 2020)
U.S. Capitol Police	2 U.S.C. § 1909
U.S. Government Accountability Office	31 U.S.C. § 705
U.S. Government Publishing Office	44 U.S.C. § 3901





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