



Office of Inspector General

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

January 30, 2026

Director Russell Vought
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Vought:

The Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 (Charge Card Act),¹ as implemented by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Appendix B to Circular No. A-123, *A Risk Management Framework for Government Charge Card Programs*, requires Inspectors General of executive agencies with more than \$10,000,000 in annual purchase card and/or \$10,000,000 in travel card spending to conduct periodic assessments of agency purchase card, convenience check, and travel card programs to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments. Offices of Inspectors General use these risk assessments to determine the necessary scope, frequency, and number of audits or reviews of these programs. This letter responds to this reporting requirement for the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) for fiscal year (FY) 2026.

The objective of our FY 2025 assessment of the FTC's charge card program was to identify and analyze the risk of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments, as well as determine the scope, frequency, and number of periodic audits of charge card activity that we would plan to conduct. Our assessment included an analysis of all FY 2025 charge card (i.e., purchase card, travel card, and centrally billed account) activity.

Based on our risk assessment of FY 2025 activity, we determined that the FTC charge card program's overall risk level—including risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases

¹ Pub. L. No. 112-194, 126 Stat. 1445 (2012) (codified at 5 U.S.C. § 5701 note; 10 U.S.C. § 2784; 41 U.S.C. § 1909).

through the purchase card program—**remains low**. Consequently, we do not plan to conduct audit work on the FTC’s charge card program in FY 2026.

While we assess the risk to the charge card program as low, we note that we issued a [Management Advisory on Expenditures Related to Executive Transportation](#) on July 8, 2025, which examined ground transportation costs incurred by the former FTC Chair and staff during official travel. As part of that advisory, we recommended that the Chief Financial Officer incorporate into policy a requirement that justifications for “other special conveyances,” such as car service, include clear and detailed reasoning demonstrating how the selected option meets the Federal Travel Regulation’s “advantageous to the government” standard. That recommendation remains open.

The OIG will continue to periodically assess risks within the FTC’s purchase and travel card programs to determine whether future audits or reviews are warranted.

The OIG appreciates the cooperation and courtesy extended to us by the FTC Office of the Chief Financial Officer during the course of this assessment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact me at oig@ftc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marissa Gould". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marissa Gould
Acting Inspector General