

Peer Review of OIG Inspection & Evaluation Units

Sue Murrin Chair of CIGIE I&E Roundtable

### Peer Review Purpose

The purpose of the peer review is to <u>facilitate learning</u> across the I&E community and to support a fully professional I&E function across the IG community. Ideally, both the Reviewed Organization and the Review Team Members would learn from the process. The peer reviews, like evaluations and inspections themselves, can and should be designed to fit different circumstances across the community. These flexibilities should be considered particularly in the case of new or small I&E units.

Draft Guide for Conducting Peer Review of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General

# IG Reform Act & Congressional Interest

- IG Reform Act of 2008, Section 11. Establishment of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
  - (a)(2)(B) The Mission of CIGIE... "is to increase the professionalism and effectiveness of personnel by developing policies, standards, and approaches..."
  - (c)(2) "Adherence and Participation by Members...each member of the Council, as appropriate, shall—
    (A) adhere to professional standards developed by the Council..."
- Response to QFR from Senator McCaskill (D-MO) by Hon. Michael Horowitz, DOJ IG, CIGIE
  Chair: "The I&E Committee expects to finish the evaluation of the I&E pilot and make
  recommendations to the Council of Inspectors General on the appropriate form and timeframes
  for an I&E peer review in 2016."

# How the Process was Developed

- 3 Rounds of Pilot Peer Review: 22 OIGs of all sizes & CIGIE Training Institute
- 2 years discussion and analysis of underlying policy issues
- Pilot peer review evaluated informally after each round, reviewed formally and independently by EPA OIG after final round
- Draft Guide for Conducting Peer Review of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General drafted by DOD OIG with edits from I&E Roundtable and I&E Committee

Pilot round	OIG I&E unit reviewed	OIG review team participating units
2012	Department of Health and Human Services	<ul> <li>Federal Housing Finance Agency</li> <li>Peace Corps</li> <li>Treasury IG for Tax Administration</li> </ul>
	Peace Corps	<ul> <li>Federal Housing Finance Agency</li> <li>Health and Human Services</li> <li>State Department</li> <li>Federal Reserve Board</li> </ul>
2013	Department of the Interior	<ul> <li>Defense Intelligence Agency</li> <li>Veterans Administration</li> <li>Department of Energy</li> </ul>
	Treasury IG for Tax Administration	<ul> <li>State</li> <li>Department of Defense</li> <li>Health and Human Services</li> <li>Veterans Administration</li> </ul>
	Veterans Administration	<ul> <li>Health and Human Services</li> <li>Interior</li> <li>Central Intelligence Agency</li> <li>Small Business Administration</li> </ul>
2015	Department of the Interior	<ul> <li>Office of Personnel Management</li> <li>Legal Services Corporation</li> <li>Department of State</li> <li>Veterans Administration</li> </ul>
	Department of State	<ul> <li>Department of Justice</li> <li>Defense Intelligence Agency</li> <li>Department of Homeland Security</li> <li>Department of Defense</li> </ul>

## Requirement to Have a Peer Review

**External Peer Review** (required)--An OIG's I&E organization will have its first peer review after it has completed 3 full years of conducting I&E work and issuing reports in compliance with the Blue Book standards. (External peer review)

**Modified external peer review** (optional on request)-- An OIG's I&E organization either:

- maintains internal policies and procedures and plans to perform I&E work in the future; or
- did not perform and report on I&Es in compliance with Blue Book standards and did not have internal policies and procedures for performing such work during the prior 3-year period.

Pages 6-7 and Appendix A

#### **I&E Peer Review Process**

- Flexible in scope
- Multi-agency teams, led by agency close in size
- Reviews 7 out of 14 standards
  - Quality Control
  - Planning
  - Data Collection and Analysis
  - Evidence
  - Records Maintenance
  - Reporting
  - Followup
  - Will look at doing remaining standards in 2<sup>nd</sup> round
- Mandatory, Every 3 years, Not pass/fail
- Implementation team to oversee schedule and challenges

### Interaction with Audit Peer Reviews

OIGs may request I&E peer review be

- concurrent with their Audit peer review, or,
- at a different time, from it's Audit peer review.

The implementation team will make every effort to accommodate these requests.

## Preparation

Curriculum development for training

Peer Review Forums

**Toolkit** 

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Newsletter
- Flow Charts

# Implementation Challenges

Unique OIGs (size, scope, subject matter)

#### Scheduling

- Multi-OIG teams
- concurrent (or not) to Audit peer reviews

#### Preparation

- Training
- Perception

#### Expectations

- Burden
- Outcome

## **Next Steps**

Continue Peer Review Forums

General and those with specific topics or for specific OIGs

Finalize schedule

Reviews begin Spring of 2018

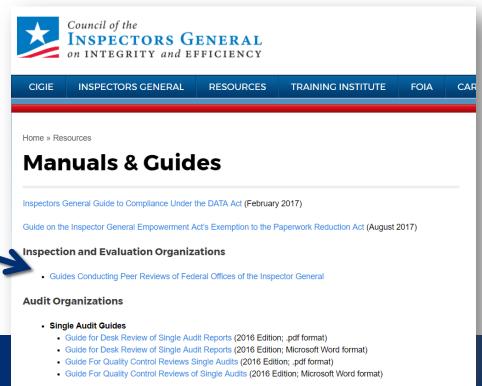
# Navigating the Peer Review Guide

Guide can be found at

www.ignet.gov/contents/manual-guides/Guide for Conducting

Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of

Federal Offices of Inspector General



### For More Information

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