Order of Events

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Marketta Robertson
U.S. Postal Service OIG

Welcoming Remarks
The Honorable Jason Miller
CIGIE Executive Chairperson
Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget

Opening Remarks
The Honorable Mark Lee Greenblatt
CIGIE Chairperson
Inspector General, Department of the Interior

Awards Presentations and Videos
CIGIE Executive Council

An Interview with Secretary Mattis (Video)
The Honorable James N. Mattis
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense
Kevin H. Winters
Amtrak Inspector General

Awards Presentations and Videos Continued
CIGIE Executive Council

Closing Remarks
Tammy L. Hull
CIGIE Vice Chairperson
Inspector General, U.S. Postal Service
The Honorable Jason Miller is the CIGIE Executive Chairperson and the Deputy Director for Management at the Office of Management and Budget, where he serves as the Federal Government’s Chief Operating Officer. In this role, he coordinates Governmentwide management initiatives to protect, strengthen, and empower the Federal workforce and ensure a more equitable, effective, and accountable Federal Government that delivers results for all Americans. Toward these goals, Miller leads the development and implementation of the President’s Management Agenda as Chair of the President’s Management Council.

Miller also is carrying out the President’s commitment to deliver prosperity, security, and opportunity to all Americans—including through implementation of the American Rescue Plan to help families and businesses recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and by harnessing the power of Federal procurement to support workers and manufacturers through the Made in America Initiative.

Most recently, Miller led the U.S. Trade Representative agency review team during the Biden-Harris transition. Prior to that, he was the Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Washington Partnership, which is a civic alliance of employers in the Capital Region focused on issues of regional inclusive economic growth and prosperity that included building and operating a more reliable and accessible transportation system; driving improved digital skills workforce through enhanced programs at the K-12, community college, and undergraduate levels; and improving housing affordability.

Previously, Miller served in the Obama-Biden White House as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of the National Economic Council, where he led the Administration’s economic policy development and coordination related to manufacturing and innovation, transportation and infrastructure, energy, entrepreneurship, and Puerto Rico.

Prior to the Obama-Biden Administration, Miller was a management consultant with the Boston Consulting Group in San Francisco and with Marakon Associates in Chicago, where he advised large organizations across industries on strategic, financial, and organizational issues. Miller received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, an M.B.A. from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, and an M.P.A. from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. Miller currently resides with his wife and three children in Maryland.
Mark Lee Greenblatt

The Honorable Mark Lee Greenblatt began his tenure as the Inspector General for the Department of the Interior (DOI) on August 26, 2019, after being confirmed by the U.S. Senate. As the Inspector General, IG Greenblatt leads a nationwide workforce of investigators, auditors, evaluators, attorneys, and support staff.

In December 2022, IG Greenblatt was elected by the membership of the 74 Federal Inspectors General to serve as the Chairperson of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. IG Greenblatt’s two-year term as CIGIE Chairperson began on January 1, 2023. In this role, he leads the IG community’s efforts to combat fraud, waste, and mismanagement throughout the Federal Government. From January 2021 to December 2022, IG Greenblatt served as the CIGIE Vice Chairperson.

IG Greenblatt has been in the Federal oversight community since 2003, serving in both the legislative and executive branches. Before becoming the DOI Inspector General, he served as the Executive Director of CIGIE. He previously held leadership roles at the Department of Commerce OIG and the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. IG Greenblatt also served as an investigative counsel at the Department of Justice OIG.

IG Greenblatt served as a Federal law clerk, was a litigator at two large, international law firms, and is a published author.

IG Greenblatt graduated from Columbia University School of Law, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, and earned his undergraduate degree from Duke University. He also completed the Senior Managers in Government Fellowship at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government.
Tammy L. Hull serves as the Vice Chairperson of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. CIGIE Chairperson Mark Lee Greenblatt appointed IG Hull to the position in January 2023.

The Governors of the U.S. Postal Service appointed IG Hull as the third Inspector General of the U.S. Postal Service on November 29, 2018. Prior to her appointment, IG Hull served as the Acting Inspector General for the U.S. Postal Service OIG since February 2016. She also served as the Deputy Inspector General from November 2011 to February 2016. In years prior, IG Hull served as the Assistant Inspector General for Audit. She joined the U.S. Postal Service OIG in November 2005 as an Audit Director.

IG Hull started her Government career at the Internal Revenue Service Inspection Service and transitioned with them as a part of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA), established in early 1999. During her career at TIGTA, she was an audit manager in Dallas, Texas, for several years before moving to Washington, DC, as the Director of the Office of Management and Policy.

IG Hull holds a Bachelor of Accounting and Business Administration degree from W. J. Bryan College in Dayton, Tennessee, and is a Certified Public Accountant.
James N. Mattis

The Honorable James N. Mattis served as the 26th Secretary of Defense in 2017 and 2018. In this role, he worked to strengthen America’s alliances and reorient the defense budget to face the rising challenges posed by emerging technologies and near-peer adversaries.

During his 43 years in the Marine Corps, General Mattis commanded combat tours at the platoon, battalion, regiment, brigade, division, force, and theater levels. This included command of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and of the 1st Marine Division during the invasion of Iraq in 2003. His time in the military culminated with 3 years as the Commander of U.S. Central Command where he oversaw joint efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq and helped shape U.S. policy toward Iran.

Immediatly prior to this, he served simultaneously as the Commander of U.S. Joint Forces Command and the Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation. In these roles, he oversaw the transformation of capabilities for the U.S. military and NATO allied forces respectively. His major projects included efforts to reshape U.S. military doctrine to engage more effectively in irregular warfare and to reimagine the U.S. military’s grand strategy.

Earlier in his military career, General Mattis served as the Executive Secretary of the Department of Defense during the tenures of Secretary William Perry and Secretary William Cohen and also as the Senior Military Assistant to Deputy Secretary of Defense Rudy de Leon.

Following his retirement from the U.S. Marine Corps in 2013, Secretary Mattis served as the Davies Family Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, specializing in the study of leadership, national security, strategy, innovation, and the effective use of military force.

He is currently the Davies Family Distinguished Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University where he lectures and writes on domestic and international security policy. He also serves as Senior Counselor at the Cohen Group, a member of the Board of Directors(4,5),(996,988)
Kevin Winters became the Inspector General of Amtrak on January 31, 2019. Amtrak’s Office of Inspector General (OIG) provides independent and objective oversight of Amtrak’s programs and operations. Amtrak operates a nationwide rail network, serving more than 500 destinations in 46 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 Canadian provinces, on more than 21,400 miles of routes.

As an Inspector General, he is a member of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. In May 2019, IG Winters was appointed to serve on its Integrity Committee, which receives, reviews, and refers for investigation, as appropriate, allegations of wrongdoing made against Inspectors General and other key personnel; and ensures the fair, consistent, timely, and impartial disposition of the allegations. In June 2020, IG Winters was elected to serve as the Integrity Committee’s Chair.

Previously, he served as a senior executive with NASA OIG from 2005 through 2015. As NASA’s Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, his staff of special agents, investigative auditors, and computer forensic examiners focused on allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse affecting NASA’s programs. In coordination with the Department of Justice, his staff recovered more than $650 million in civil and criminal fraud-related penalties, and his Computer Crimes Division spearheaded many successful investigations into international computer intrusions affecting NASA, which resulted in holding cyber criminals accountable in Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Before joining the OIG community, Kevin Winters served in the United States Marine Corps, retiring as a Brigadier General. His initial service was as an armor officer with the Second Marine Division, and then as a judge advocate after attending law school through the Funded Law Education Program. Subsequent domestic and overseas assignments included duties as a prosecutor and defense counsel; a faculty member at the U.S. Army’s JAG School in Charlottesville, Virginia; a battalion commander at Parris Island Recruit Depot; and as a senior uniformed legal advisor to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, where his office was also responsible for providing legal support to over 172,000 Marines and their families. As an adjunct faculty member for the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies, Mr. Winters led instruction teams in the rule of law and civilian control of the military for senior civilian and military officials in the Republic of the Congo, the Czech Republic, the Philippines, Estonia, and the Republic of Ghana.

His final Marine Corps assignment was as an Assistant Judge Advocate General of the Navy, where, among other duties, he was a principal advisor for military justice policy for the Department of the Navy. He was also in the Pentagon on 9/11 and later served in Iraq.

Originally from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, IG Winters has a Bachelor of Science in Commerce and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Louisville and a Master of Laws from the University of Virginia.
26th Annual Award Ceremony
November 7, 2023

Awards
June Gibbs Brown Career Achievement Award

June Gibbs Brown was part of the first group of Inspectors General nominated by President Jimmy Carter and confirmed by the U.S. Senate after the passage of the Inspector General Act of 1978. She served as the first statutory IG of the Department of the Interior until 1981. That year, President Ronald Reagan nominated her to be the IG at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, where she served for 4 years. In 1987, President Reagan again asked IG Brown to serve her country, this time as the IG for the Department of Defense.

IG Brown is most often remembered for her achievements as the IG of the Department of Health and Human Services, a position she held between 1993 and 2000. During her tenure, she oversaw the expansion of operations at both HHS and HHS OIG after the enactment of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. She later served as the first IG of the Social Security Administration when it was carved out of HHS.

In light of IG Brown’s extensive contributions to the Federal oversight community, CIGIE presents this award to one person who has served for at least a decade in the IG community and who has made significant and sustained contributions that furthered the goals of the Inspector General Act throughout their career.

Department of Labor OIG
Phyllis McKissick

In recognition of 40 years of significant and sustained contributions to the success of the Department of Labor (DOL) OIG in combatting fraud, waste, and abuse in DOL programs and operations and in combating labor racketeering in the American workplace.

Throughout her 40-year career at the DOL OIG, Phyllis McKissick has made sustained, high impact contributions to its mission. Her impact on the office’s investigative accomplishments during her tenure is clear: 18,222 indictments; 10,127 convictions; and over $4 billion in investigative monetary results—many of which would not have been possible without her dedicated leadership and support. After beginning her career in 1982 as a clerk typist, McKissick has held numerous positions within the Office of Investigations, including Investigative Assistant, Management Analyst, and Branch Chief of Administrative Operations. She was most recently appointed to serve as the Office of Investigations Director of Administration in 2022. For many years, McKissick served as the preeminent expert in all administrative matters involving the DOL OIG’s Office of Investigations and played a key role in overseeing its human resources, budgetary, and procurement functions. In addition to her technical expertise, McKissick is viewed by many as a consummate professional and an exemplary OIG employee.
Audit Awards for Excellence

Corporation for National and Community Service (AmeriCorps) OIG

AmeriCorps OIG Financial Statements Audit Team
Monique Colter  Tamekia Davis  David Karakashian

*In recognition of exemplary work on the FY 2022 Financial Statements Audit and subsequent engagement with AmeriCorps and its stakeholders to bring accountability and cultivate financial management reform.*

Defense Intelligence Agency OIG

MARS Program Team
Brima Bangura  Norman Ingram  Mary Webb
Daniel Battitori  Herminio Irizarry-Munoz  Anna-Kay Wheatley
Deyanara Gonzalez-Lainez  Kiara Johnson

*In recognition of excellence for delivering impactful audit results for a critical acquisition program that will enhance how the Defense Intelligence Agency provides intelligence, well ahead of the program’s initial operating capability milestone.*

Department of Commerce OIG

Analee Striner-Brown

*In recognition of outstanding work in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of a DOC program, supporting the public safety community, and identifying $296,299,098 in funds put to better use.*

Department of Defense OIG

IVAS Audit Team
Stephen Fox  Norman Printer  Scott Spaulding
Christine McIsaac  Artisha Polk  Christina Wynkoop
Russell Mulley  Joseph Siddall

*In recognition of the team that conducted the impactful audit of the Army’s IVAS, was committed to mediating the critically important recommendations with senior Army and DoD officials, and effectively briefed Congress on the audit’s results.*
Department of Education OIG

Charter School Programs Effectiveness Audit Team

Kathryn Carey     Jon Enslen     Ruby Len
Keith Cummins    Mari Farthing    Gary Whitman
Lori Eichelberg   Witold Felski

In recognition of the audit team’s contributions toward improving the effectiveness of the Department of Education’s Charter Schools Programs in increasing the number of high-quality charter schools.

Department of Energy OIG

U1a Complex Enhancement Project Team

Kelley Boyle     Barbara Wilson     Jae Woo
Crystal Miller

In recognition of outstanding audit work and dedication that identified areas for improvement in project management by the National Nuclear Security Administration’s Stockpile Stewardship Program, which is responsible for certification of the Nation’s Stockpile.

Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride Conversion Operations Audit Report Team

Philip Beckett    Henning V. Landa    Jeremy Riggs
Debbie Gernt    Debbie Martin    Lisa Rodgers

In recognition of outstanding audit work that identified areas for improvement in the Department of Energy’s depleted uranium hexafluoride conversion operations to help prevent further cost growth and help ensure compliance with regulatory milestones.

Department of Health and Human Services OIG

NIH/EcoHealth Alliance Award Monitoring Team

Mike Barton     Delphine Hanna    Peter Taschenberger
Allen Burbey    Mark Kopelman    Geeta Taylor
Joe Capuano     Leslie Preuss     Jack Ullrich
Nancy Corcoran  Vicki Robinson   Andrew VanLandingham
Sheri Fulcher   Jennifer Sobota
Lee Gibson      Jeffrey Stitz

In recognition of work that drew significant congressional interest to grant monitoring deficiencies, especially of foreign subrecipients, and highlighted the importance of grants oversight of funding for high-risk research.
Department of Homeland Security OIG

DHS Encountered Obstacles To Screen, Vet, and Inspect All Evacuees During the Recent Afghanistan Crisis (OIG-22-64)

Stephanie Brand
Katrina Burpo
Andrew Herman
Ebenezer Jackson
Johnson Joseph
Lindsey Koch
Ariel Krongauz
E. Kristine Odina
Patrick O’Malley
Sandra Parsons
Natalia Segermeister

In recognition of the DHS OIG audit team for their exceptional audit work to help the Department of Homeland Security address shortfalls in a historic evacuation operation and recommend areas of improvement.

Department of Housing and Urban Development OIG–CIGIE Disaster Assistance Working Group

Disaster Preparedness for Federal Agencies Team

CIGIE
Alan Boehm
DHS OIG
Douglas Campbell
Yesenia Starinsky
DOD OIG
Deborah Culp
Brett Mansfield
DOI OIG
Troy Dopke
DOT OIG
Barry DeWeese
Tiffany Mostert
Charles A. Ward
HHS OIG
Amy Frontz
Carla Lewis
Glenn Richter
Elise Stein
Amelia E. Wentz
HUD OIG
Dwrena Allen
Linda Evensen
Chris Fontanesi
Carl E. Hobbs
Susan Marchino
William Nixon
Danita Wade
Roleen Younis
SBA OIG
Samuel Seaberry

In recognition of CIGIE’s Disaster Assistance Working Group initiative to inform Federal agencies and Congress of seven OIGs’ reported findings and recommendations in preparing for and responding to disasters to help avoid future program challenges.

Department of the Interior OIG

The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Team

Julianne Cochran
Colleen Kotzmoyer
Johanna Lasen
Nicole “Nicki” Miller
Sidrah Miraaj-Raza
Patrick O’Boyle
Jon Pifer
Matthew Seibert
Jennifer Wilbers

In recognition of the team’s exemplary efforts in identifying a State’s use of grant funds to pay retiree unfunded liabilities, reducing the funding available to accomplish Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration efforts.
Department of Justice OIG

Federal Bureau of Investigation’s National Security Undercover Operations Audit Team

Jennifer Ansley  William O’Brien  Dirk Schumacher
Christian Breyer  Emily Rolkowski  Joel Stitt

In recognition of the audit team’s exemplary assessment of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s national security undercover operations, which identified several areas for improvement in the FBI’s management and oversight of this critical program.

Audit of the Bureau of Justice Assistance’s National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Audit Team

David Gaschke  Jennifer Rashe  Elbert Wong
Christine Hinton-Martinez  Jessica Rivera

In recognition of the team’s exceptional audit identifying improvements to the Bureau of Justice Assistance’s National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative and related grants to local, State, and Tribal law enforcement agencies and prosecutors’ offices.

Department of Labor OIG

Pandemic-Related Unemployment Insurance Benefits Eligibility Audit Team

Nickia Alli  Velma Ivey  Michael Roberts
Brittany Arias  LaKeisha Jones  Mark Sanderson
Dennis Asante  Sharon Newby  Christopher Silvern
Diane Cramer  Le Nguyen  Janet Simon
Nicholas Cumby  Phu Nguyen  Aaron Talbert
Michael Elliot  Betty Norwood  Travis Williams
Dwight Gates  Patricia Painter  Chaze Williams-Bey
Jonathan Heinz  Karriem Perry
Carla Orvis Hunt  Christy Powell

In recognition of exemplary team performance in determining that the Employment & Training Administration and States did not ensure pandemic-related unemployment insurance funds were paid only to eligible individuals promptly and estimating $30.4 billion in Pandemic Unemployment Benefits and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation benefits were paid improperly.

High-Risk Area Audit Team

Lawrence Alli  LaKeisha Jones  Reed Rubey
Brittany Arias  Ning Kang  Christopher Silvern
Dennis Asante  Michael Kostrzewa  Travis Williams
Timothy Eagle  Le Nguyen  Melissa Young
Jonathan Heinz  Phu Nguyen

In recognition of exceptional team performance by the OIG in identifying more than $29.6 billion in potentially fraudulent unemployment insurance pandemic benefits paid in four high-risk areas, for a total of $45.6 billion.
**Department of Treasury OIG**

**Council of Inspectors General on Financial Oversight Guidance in Preparing for and Managing Crises**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CFTC</td>
<td>Matt Gibbons, Laura Shakariji, Michael VanHuysen, Jennifer Kim, James Lloyd, Gabriele Tonsil, Jennifers Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>FDIC OIG</td>
<td>Terry Gibson, Cynthia Hogue, Stacey Luck, Rigene Mabry, Michael Reed, Greg Soames, Lisa Sweeney, HHD OIG, Terry Gibson, Cynthia Hogue, Stacey Luck, Rigene Mabry, Michael Reed, Greg Soames, Lisa Sweeney, Treasury OIG, Terry Gibson, Cynthia Hogue, Stacey Luck, Rigene Mabry, Michael Reed, Greg Soames, Lisa Sweeney</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRB OIG</td>
<td>Margaret An, Jason Derr, Marvin Stith, NCUA OIG, Margaret An, Jason Derr, Marvin Stith, NCUA OIG, Margaret An, Jason Derr, Marvin Stith, NCUA OIG, Margaret An, Jason Derr, Marvin Stith, NCUA OIG</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIGTARP</td>
<td>Melissa Bruce, Marc Geller, SIGTARP, Melissa Bruce, Marc Geller, SIGTARP, Melissa Bruce, Marc Geller, SIGTARP, Melissa Bruce, Marc Geller, SIGTARP</td>
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*In recognition of exceptional cross-OIG teamwork in developing guidance for the Financial Stability Oversight Council and its member agencies in preparing for and managing crises.*

**Department of Veterans Affairs OIG**

**Team Identifying Multiple Issues with VA’s Electronic Health Record Modernization Program Schedule and Rollout**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Bentley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Blake</td>
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<td>Kristi Corthell</td>
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<td>Kendall Ferguson</td>
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<td>Francis Hoang</td>
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<td>Joy Jordan</td>
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<td>Ryan Mols</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cecilia Shim</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Sizemore</td>
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<td>Clifford Stoddard</td>
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*In recognition of the audit team’s extensive work identifying issues with the Electronic Health Record Modernization schedule that could have led to missed milestones, cost overruns, improper payments, and harm to veterans.*

**Audit Team for Ensuring VA Recovers Hundreds of Millions of Dollars Owed by Private Health Insurers for Community Care**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nelvy Viguera Butler</td>
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<td>Jordan Caturia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Enders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hope Favreau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shawn Graham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dyanne Griffith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Hoskinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Leonard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer McDonald</td>
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*In recognition of superior work in identifying process weaknesses that kept VA from recovering hundreds of millions of dollars in reimbursements from private health insurers for community care.*
General Services Administration OIG
Multiple Award Schedule Program Audit Team
Susana Bandeira  Thomas Tripple

In recognition of outstanding efforts identifying significant deficiencies in how the General Services Administration negotiates and awards contracts under its $40 billion-a-year Multiple Award Schedule Program.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration OIG
Review of NASA’s Management of the Earth Science Disasters Program Audit Team
Adrian Dupree  David Lu  Ray Tolomeo
Sarah Hughes  Lauren Suls

In recognition of exceptional achievement and outstanding teamwork in identifying improvements needed in NASA’s Management of the Earth Science Disasters Program.

National Science Foundation OIG
Team for Audit of NSF’s Vetting Process for Individuals Assigned Under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act
Harrison Ford  Elizabeth Argeris Lewis  Nacole White
Heather Gallagher  Ken Lish
Jeremy Hall  Melissa Woolson Prunchak

In recognition of the team identifying significant weaknesses in NSF’s vetting process that led to hiring ineligible candidates and candidates with significant risks related to foreign influence, resulting in NSF substantially strengthening its process.

Office of Personnel Management OIG
Special Audits Group
Rick Davis  Kevin Sikora  Josh Swartzlander
Luke Johnson  Rhonda Surrena  Jim Tuel

In recognition of the Special Audits Group’s excellent work in identifying $15 million in prescription drug overcharges due to a carrier’s failure to follow the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program transparency standards for pharmacy benefit managers.

Small Business Administration OIG
Audit Team for SBA’s Handling of Potentially Fraudulent Paycheck Protection Program Loans
Deven Burden  Stephen Chow  Usmaan Khan
Kevin Caldwell  Teresa Gray  Amanda Zenner

In recognition of the team’s exemplary performance in identifying that SBA did not provide lenders sufficient specific guidance to effectively identify, track, address, and resolve potentially fraudulent loans in the $813 billion Paycheck Protection Program.
Social Security Administration OIG

**Work Review Determinations for Disabled Beneficiaries**

Lonnie Boeding  
Tonya Eickman  
Jennifer Storz  
Mary Correa  
James Packman

*In recognition of the team’s expert work in completing a large-scope audit that identified control weaknesses in SSA’s work review process for disabled beneficiaries, resulting in errors that led to over $553 million in questionable benefit payments.*

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

**Recovery Rebate Credit Team**

James Allen  
Meera Dave  
Jane Lee  
Deann Baiza  
Johnathan Elder  
Russell Martin  
Michael Bibler  
Karen Fulte  
Donald Meyer  
Jason Brammer  
Brieane Hamaoka  
David Robben  
Karen Brown  
Laura Haws  
Ngan Tang  
Hong Cao  
Tracy Hernandez  
Heidi Turbyfill  
Laura Christofferson  
Robert Howes  
Linda Valentine  
Shannon Cummings  
Cheryl Joneckis  
Tracy Winfield

*In recognition of outstanding achievements by the Recovery Rebate Credit Team in evaluating and reporting issues related to the Internal Revenue Service’s efforts to administer legislatively required COVID-19 financial relief to individual taxpayers.*

U.S. Postal Service OIG

**Review of National Change of Address and Moversguide Applications**

Max Brown  
Gerri Shanklin  
Azim Wahba  
Aris Burnett  
Damian Taylor  
Quinton Womack  
Laura Roberts

*In recognition of outstanding achievement for evaluating security, availability, and identity verification controls for the Postal Service’s National Change of Address applications.*
Barry R. Snyder Joint Award

Barry R. Snyder was appointed as the Inspector General of the Federal Reserve Board (FRB) in 1998, where he served until 2006. In addition to the important oversight work he performed at FRB, he was the long serving Vice Chairperson of one of CIGIE’s predecessors, the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency (ECIE), whose membership included all Designated Federal Entity (DFE) IGs. During his tenure as ECIE Vice Chairperson, IG Snyder worked tirelessly with his counterparts at the President’s Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) to advance the mutual interests of all IGs across the Federal Government. His dedication to bringing Presidentially appointed and DFE IGs together helped lay the foundation for the organization that became CIGIE.

In recognition of his commitment to the IG Community and principles of teamwork, CIGIE presents this award to a team of individuals from multiple OIGs who made significant contributions through their cooperative efforts on matters of interest and importance to the IG Community, the Federal Government, and the public.

Department of Health and Human Services OIG–Pandemic Response Accountability Committee

PRAC Telehealth Team

HHS OIG
Miriam Anderson
Erin Bliss
John Gordon
Vincent Greiber
Alexis Mills
Sabrina Morello
Jodi Nudelman
Megan Tinker
Andrew VanLandingham

DOJ OIG
Lincoln Berget
Melanie Danberg
Jan Hamm
Max Kwass-Mason
Bradley Nelson
Alec Parker
Allison Russo
Michael Vertenten

DOD OIG
Kevin Acosta
Maurice Foster
Laurel Gosmen
Emil Kabban
Towanda Meredith
Kaleab Tesfaye
Matthew Worner

DOL OIG
Lynn Allen
Brittany Arias
Dennis Asante
Richard Fitzgerald
Y.C. Lee
Jon Ling
Stephen Sovich
Chaze Williams-Bey

OPM OIG
Stephanie Oliver

In recognition of the outstanding cooperative effort of seven agencies to produce a groundbreaking report that provided key insights into telehealth services and its program integrity risks in Federal health care programs.

Dawn Schauer
Jasmine Taylor
Michael Weaver
Emily Bond
Jarrett Fussell
Marc Geller
Mey McLean

Jennifer Baptiste
Irene Barnett
Kim Cragg
Benjamin Howe
Julie Krovijak
Patrice Marcarelli
Daniel Morris
Andrea Sandoval
Leigh Ann Searight
David Vibe
The PRAC telehealth team, composed of partners from six OIGs (DOD, DOJ, DOL, HHS, OPM, and VA) and the PRAC, engaged in a groundbreaking collaboration during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their goal was to assess telehealth use across selected Federal health programs and the associated potential program integrity risks. Led by HHS OIG, the team used new tools to collaborate and issue a report.

Notably, the report revealed dramatic increases in telehealth use during the first year of the pandemic, when 37 million individuals used more than $6 billion in telehealth services across the examined Federal programs. The report went on to identify and discuss the risks for fraud in the telehealth field, including the risk of billing for the same service twice, inappropriately billing the most expensive level of service, and billing for services that are not suitable for telehealth.

The team’s work successfully highlighted for policymakers that looming decisions about the emerging future of telehealth flexibilities must balance changing consumer demand with necessary protections against fraud, waste, and abuse. Achieving this balance requires complete and reliable data, as well as additional safeguards to strengthen program integrity and minimize risk.
Evaluations Awards for Excellence

Architect of the Capitol OIG
Audrey Cree

In recognition of the AOC OIG Inspections and Evaluations Division’s evaluation of the AOC’s security badging program, which has resulted in the creation of standardized policies and procedures and interagency collaboration to enhance the safety and security of the Capitol campus, its workforce, and its visitors.

Department of Energy OIG
Allegations of Safety Concerns at the National Nuclear Security Administration Albuquerque Complex (DOE-OIG-23-03) Inspection Team
Jocelyn Chavez  Phillip Holbrook  Alison Velesz
Raymon Funes  Michael Sanchez

In recognition of outstanding evaluation work that identified longstanding critical safety and personnel failures of a National Nuclear Security Administration facility maintenance and support services contractor.

Department of Health and Human Services OIG
Protecting Unaccompanied Children Arriving at the Southern Border
Arlinda Arriaga  Haley Lubeck  Mollee Sultani
Laura Canfield  Diana Merelman  Jessica Swanstrom
Eyana Esters  Melissa Rumley  Kelly Waldhoff
Miranda Fanning  Marcia Sayer  Abbi Warmker
Caroline Filbrun  Catherine Spivey  Brian Whitley
Althea Hosein  Dana Squires  Erin Whittington

In recognition of outstanding work to better protect the more than 100,000 unaccompanied children who annually arrive at the southern border of the United States.

Department of Homeland Security OIG
DHS Actions Related to an I&A Intelligence Product Deviated from Standard Procedures (OIG-22-41)
Brendan Bacon  Adam Brown  Greg Flatow
Jennifer Berry  Anthony Crawford  Erika Lang

In recognition of exceptional performance on a complex evaluation of the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis’ drafting, editing, and disseminating an intelligence product regarding Russian interference in the 2020 U.S. Presidential election.
Department of Justice OIG

Evaluation of Gender Equity in the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Training Process for New Special Agents and Intelligence Analysts at the FBI Academy

Kristopher Brash Dixon  Joseph Meyer  Donellen Schlosser
Taimiko Hayes  Bradley Nelson

In recognition of innovative oversight in an evaluation of gender equity in the FBI’s training process for new special agents and intelligence analysts at the FBI Academy.

Department of State OIG

The Review of Challenges in the Afghan Placement and Assistance Program Team

Claire Bernard  Ryan Dunn  Jeffrey McDermott
Amy Bowser  Nicole Matthis  Linette Romer
Jeremy Brown

In recognition of outstanding work evaluating the challenges faced by resettlement agencies in supporting Afghan evacuees after the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

Team for Improved Processing Needed for Veterans’ Claims of Contaminated Water Exposure at Camp Lejeune

Christopher Beltz  Kerri Leggiero-Yglesias  Clifford Stoddard
Daniel Blodgett  Jill Russell  William Tettemer
Shae Buchanan  Bryan Shaw  Lisa Van Haeren
Casey Crump

In recognition of the team’s remarkable efforts exposing VA’s failure to care for and compensate veterans exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, resulting in the Veterans Benefits Administration centralizing processing to improve accuracy of deciding claims.

General Services Administration OIG

Login.gov Evaluation Team

Tara Kilfoyle  Christopher Pehrson  Patricia Sheehan
Kathleen Kohl  Nicolas Shands  Teresa Story
Andrew Leitner

In recognition of outstanding work that found GSA misled customer agencies for years regarding Login.gov’s known noncompliance with digital identity standards and knowingly billed more than $10 million for services that did not meet standards.
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation OIG
Terminated Vested Evaluation Team
Jensen Chan  Tiara Grotte  Charles Yao
John Foster  John Seger

In recognition of exemplary efforts in identifying potential overpayments in the Special Financial Assistance program and protecting PBGC from reputational risk and potential waste of taxpayer dollars.

Office of Personnel Management OIG
Office of Audits' Claim Audits and Analytics Group
Stephanie Oliver  Jasmine Taylor
Dawn Schauer  Michael Weaver

In recognition of outstanding achievements by the Evaluation Team in protecting the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program from fraud, waste, and abuse and ensuring the safety and privacy of all Federal employees.

Tennessee Valley Authority OIG
Christopher Sheets

In recognition of the auditor's significant achievement in identifying noncompliant respirator fit, training, and storage, and delinquencies in medical evaluations.
Glenn/Roth Award for Exemplary Service

Senators John Glenn and William V. Roth, Jr., served together as the Chairman and Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs for many years, often trading positions when party control of the Senate changed. After the passage of the Inspector General Act of 1978, both Senators became committed supporters of the IG community and were instrumental in seeing the Act expanded in 1988.

In 2003, as part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the IG Act’s enactment, CIGIE’s predecessor organizations established this award in honor of Senator Glenn’s and Senator Roth’s commitment to independent, objective, and transparent oversight. Today, CIGIE continues this tradition by awarding the Glenn/Roth Exemplary Service Award to an individual or group whose efforts enhance Congress’ ability to pass valuable legislation and/or conduct meaningful oversight of Government programs.

Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

Teams Ensuring VA Fulfills Duties to Veterans Exposed to Burn Pits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kalli Anello</th>
<th>Kendall Ferguson</th>
<th>Andrea Salas</th>
<th>Michael Soybel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clifton Baker</td>
<td>Elyce Girouard</td>
<td>Michael Stack</td>
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<td>Kathy Berrada</td>
<td>Charles Hoskinson</td>
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<td>Daniel Blodgett</td>
<td>Yu-Fang Li</td>
<td>Dana Sullivan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nelvy Viguera Butler</td>
<td>Janet Mah</td>
<td>Claudia Wellborn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brett Byrd</td>
<td>Michael Reyes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camielle Compton</td>
<td>Corina Riba</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leslie Yuri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Dong</td>
<td>Despina Saeger</td>
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</table>

In recognition of exemplary efforts to report on VA’s failures to care for and compensate veterans exposed to burn pits, highlighting the urgent need to pass legislation that ensures they receive the healthcare and benefits to which they are entitled.

Approximately 3.5 million veterans may have been exposed to airborne hazards and toxins from open burn pits and other sources—exposure that has the potential to cause both immediate and delayed health problems. The Department of Veterans Affairs has struggled to provide benefits and care to veterans who developed disabilities related to exposure to burn pits.

The VA OIG team’s evaluation of persistent errors in processing burn pit exposure benefit claims and their analysis of a broken registry exam process provided Congress with crucial data and compelling evidence to inform legislation addressing these problems. At the time, Congress was considering the PACT Act, which would make it easier for veterans to prove that burn pits caused their disabilities, provide toxic exposure screening to every veteran enrolled in VA health care, and improve research and treatment.

The PACT Act was signed by President Biden on August 10, 2022, and is perhaps the largest expansion of veterans’ health care and benefits in history.
Inspections Awards for Excellence

Department of the Interior OIG

Department Password Complexity Inspection Team
Ted Dykstra  Jennifer Fonken  Deanna Masterson
Jennifer Fedewa  Jefferson Gilkeson  Liz Pena-Fletcher

In recognition of DOI OIG IT evaluators who developed an innovative approach that identified significant enterprise-wide weaknesses in the Department’s password and user account management practices.

Department of the Interior OIG

Inspection of DOI Bureaus’ Analyses of Effective Royalty Rates Team
Amy Billings  Julianne Cochran  Joseph Randolph
Paul Burns  Colleen Kotzmoyer

In recognition of the team’s complex review establishing DOI does not analyze effective royalty rates for Federal oil & gas and that such analysis is critical for effective program management.

Department of State OIG

Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Inspection Team
Colleen Ayers  Monica Friday  Shawn O’Reilly
David Becker  John Hardman  Vandana Patel
Stephen Caldwell  John Lightner  Terry Rusch
Ellen Engels  Matt Lunn  Abigail Sebastian
Brett Fegley  Caroline Mangelsdorf  Daniel Tessler
John Finkbeiner  Paula Mathews

In recognition of exemplary performance in identifying critical deficiencies in the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, including a lack of oversight of more than $1 billion in U.S. foreign assistance funds.
Information Technology Awards for Excellence

CIGIE Technology Committee
Cybersecurity Workgroup Team
DHS OIG  DOD OIG  USITC OIG
Ruth Blevins  Sean Keaney  Julio Mercado

DOC OIG  NSA OIG
Charles Mitchell  Jayne Wilson

In recognition of establishing and furthering the CIGIE Technology Committee’s goal of raising cybersecurity awareness across CIGIE member organizations through the Cybersecurity Working Group’s newsletters, training, outreach, and events.

Federal Reserve Board and CFPB OIG
FISMA Metrics and Evaluation Guide Working Group
CPSC OIG  HUD OIG
Daniel Burrows  John Garceau

DNI OIG  EEOC OIG
Melissa Fierra  Gregory Frazier
Jamie Horvath

Richard Ng
Dave Whitcomb

Education OIG  OMB
Joey Maranto
Craig Wood

DOO OIG  FRB OIG
Trish Cooper  Joshua Dieckert
Alan Shultz
Chelsea Nguyen
Paul Vaclavik

DOD OIG  HHS OIG
Phillip Faller  Ko Williams

In recognition of the outstanding contributions to improving and driving consistency in OIG evaluations of agencies’ information security programs under the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA).

Office of Personnel Management OIG
Information Systems Audits Group
Matthew Antunez  Ashania N. Carrington  OMB
Christopher P. Bouchey  Kevin N. Ghadia  Michael Burger
Eric W. Keehan  Stephen M. Sala

In recognition of outstanding achievements by the audit team in showing exceptional skill and diligence in identifying systemic vulnerabilities that could have exposed Federal employees’ protected health information to unauthorized access.
Management Awards for Excellence

Department of Health and Human Services OIG
Phillip Coyne

In recognition of sustained contributions to HHS OIG as Special Agent in Charge of an investigative region that has achieved over 540 criminal convictions and over $12 billion in monetary recoveries over the past decade.

Small Business Administration OIG
Audit Team for SBA’s Guaranty Purchases for Paycheck Protection Program Loans
Min A
Samuel Bronson
Kevin Caldwell
Stephen Chow
Berenisse Davila-Casiano
Teresa Gray
Usmaan Khan

In recognition of the team’s exemplary performance in identifying that SBA ended collections on purchased PPP loans valued at $100,000 or less, totaling $1.1 billion, without conducting a sufficient cost-benefit analysis to support its decision.

Law and Legislation Award for Excellence

Peace Corps OIG – CIGIE Legislation Committee

CIGIE Legislation Committee Team for the 117th Congress
CIGIE
Atticus Reaser
DOJ OIG
Adam Miles
DOT OIG
Eric Dugger
FDIC OIG
Michael McCarthy
FTC OIG
Marissa Gould
HUD OIG
Christopher Fontanesi
ITC OIG
Jill Trynosky
NGA OIG
Jacquelyn Phillips
OPM OIG
Angela Kendera
Peace Corps OIG
Ranju Shrestha
Elizabethe Sweetland
SSA OIG
Michele Bloom

In recognition of the CIGIE Legislation Committee team’s excellence in providing technical assistance to Congress supporting changes in law enhancing IG authorities and independence.
Gaston L. Gianni, Jr. Better Government Award

Gaston L. Gianni, Jr., was confirmed as the first presidentially appointed Inspector General of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in 1996. He served in that role until his retirement from Federal service in 2004. During his tenure at FDIC, IG Gianni served as the Vice Chairperson of the President’s Council on Integrity and Efficiency, a predecessor to CIGIE. In that role, he worked closely with other IGs to coordinate community-wide issues related to the effective operations of OIGs. Before joining the FDIC, IG Gianni was a senior executive at the Government Accountability Office, where he served for over 31 years. In recognition of IG Gianni’s lifetime commitment to Federal oversight, CIGIE presents this award to an individual or group whose efforts, accomplishments, or actions enhance the public’s confidence in the Government and that exemplify the highest ideals of public service.

This year, CIGIE is pleased to announce there was a tie for this award.

U.S. Agency for International Development OIG
Accountability of United Nations Officials for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Against Women and Children in Africa Team
Shelby Colson  Miguel Guardian  Laura Rousseau
Mark Day  Adam Kaplan

In recognition of the team’s exemplary and unprecedented efforts in securing and analyzing evidence that allowed USAID to hold officials from the U.N. World Health Organization accountable for sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children in Africa.

The international media recently reported that more than 30 women made over 50 allegations of widespread sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by personnel affiliated with the World Health Organization (WHO) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Over an 18-month period, USAID OIG investigators and attorneys engaged with U.S. interagency counterparts to respond to these allegations. USAID OIG team members traveled to Geneva to encourage WHO officials directly to share information.

As a direct result of the team’s efforts, WHO shared hundreds of previously unreleased investigative documents. The USAID OIG investigation found substantiated widespread allegations of SEA, rape, and harassment (including against girls as young as age 13) by WHO staff and partners. The team also found that senior level WHO staff in Geneva were aware of the allegations but failed to take appropriate action.

Based on referrals by USAID OIG, USAID has debarred two individuals and suspended and proposed debarment of eight additional people responsible for the horrific assaults in the DRC. These are the first known U.S. Government debarments of U.N. officials determined to have engaged in SEA. They will protect other women and children by preventing these individuals from working on U.S. Government funded projects.
Architect of the Capitol OIG
Team Investigating the Former Architect of the Capitol
Meghan Blasi               Kristy Miller                Abbey Tereba
Natasha Garcia             Sally Smith

In recognition of the AOC OIG's investigation of misuse of taxpayer funds and ethical violations by the former Architect of the Capitol to ensure accountability, integrity, and enhance the public's confidence in senior Government leaders.

Over the course of a 2-year investigation, the AOC OIG Investigative Division revealed a series of egregious actions by the former Architect of the Capitol, including that he repeatedly abused his authority, treated Government property as his own, and wasted taxpayer money. For example, the former Architect permitted family members to drive AOC vehicles for personal vacations. During one excursion, the AOC car was involved in a minor accident and the former Architect represented to the other driver that he was an "agent" and that the Government would pay for the repairs (which it did). The AOC OIG team then uncovered evidence that the former Architect used an AOC vehicle equipped with emergency devices to pursue a hit-and-run suspect who struck his daughter's boyfriend's vehicle. Others involved in the accident, including local law enforcement, were under the impression that he was a Federal law enforcement officer.

The results of the AOC OIG investigative team's work led to bipartisan calls for the former Architect's resignation. Congress also included language in the Omnibus Appropriations bill to prevent Federal funds from being used for a home-to-work vehicle for the Architect. President Biden removed the former Architect in February 2023.
Investigation Awards for Excellence

Amtrak (National Railroad Passenger Corporation) OIG

Dr. Michael Ligotti Investigative Team

Amtrak
Jill Maroney

DOJ
Alexandra Chase
James Hayes
Ligia Markman

FBI
Luz Delgado
John Gerrity
William Stewart

FL State Government
Mark Berey
Scott Utech

IRS
Frances Szczepanski

In recognition of the unrelenting investigative efforts of the Dr. Michael Ligotti investigative team, whose collective work brought justice to the most prolific addiction treatment fraud doctor ever charged by the Department of Justice.

Department of Defense OIG

Dakota Outerwear Investigative Team

DHS
Tiffany Willshaw

DOD
Vincent DeSalvo
Shane Galbraith
Lance Marble
Andrew Stevens

DOD OIG
Amy Mousseau

DOJ
Zachary Cunha
Sandra Hebert
Lee Vilker

GSA OIG
James Blanchard
Antonietta Steeley

In recognition of the multiagency effort to protect Service members.

Department of Education OIG

Apex School of Theology Investigative Team

DOJ
Leslie S. Garthwaite
Spencer Ryan

Education OIG
Bruno Boggi
Rodney Fair

FBI
Kate Furtak

IRS
Joshua Etheredge

In recognition of exemplary investigative efforts, resulting in the prosecution of Apex School of Theology for perpetrating a multimillion dollar fraud scheme to misappropriate Federal financial aid funds for personal enrichment.
Department of Education OIG

**Studio DRB Productions Investigation Team**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOJ</th>
<th>Education OIG</th>
<th>OIG</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samir Kaushal</td>
<td>Rodney Fair</td>
<td>Keith Spears</td>
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<td>Christopher Hessberger</td>
<td>Jason Vann</td>
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<td>Melissa Hall</td>
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*In recognition of exemplary efforts that led to the prosecution of De’reek Banks and Studio DRB Productions for perpetrating the largest and costliest fraud scheme involving the Department of Education’s Total and Permanent Disability Discharge program.*

Department of Energy OIG

**MOX Services Fraud Investigation Team**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOJ</th>
<th>Energy OIG</th>
<th>OIG</th>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Brisson</td>
<td>Pauline Conner</td>
<td>Richard Sample</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheria Clarke</td>
<td>Mary-Ellen Faubert</td>
<td>Rory Skaggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Leventis</td>
<td>Anne Frate</td>
<td>Don Williamson</td>
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<td>John Potterfield</td>
<td>Ryan Fussell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johanna Valenzuela</td>
<td>Tony Ginn</td>
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*In recognition of outstanding investigative work that identified major gratuities and embezzlement schemes hobbling the Nation’s largest effort to repurpose military nuclear material into commercial fuel to produce electricity.*

Department of Health and Human Services OIG

**St. Gabriel Health Clinic Investigative Team**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOJ</th>
<th>Kelly Walters</th>
<th>OIG</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristen Craig</td>
<td>Justin Woodard</td>
<td>Ritchard Houdashelt</td>
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<td>Joseph Springer</td>
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*In recognition of the St. Gabriel Health Clinic investigative team who delivered justice for the Louisiana Medicaid program and children falsely diagnosed with serious mental health disorders.*

Patricia Derges Investigation Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOJ</th>
<th>HHS OIG</th>
<th>OIG</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Randy Eggert</td>
<td>Amanda Burrows</td>
<td>Teresa Dailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon Kempf</td>
<td>Michael Effland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Kline</td>
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*In recognition of the outstanding investigation of Patricia Derges, an assistant physician and Missouri State Representative, which resulted in prosecution of COVID-19 fraud, stem cell fraud, and illegal distribution of prescription drugs.*
Department of Justice OIG

Team Responsible for Convicting a Deputy U.S. Marshal for Cyberstalking and Framing His Ex-Fiancée for Attempted Sexual Assault

Heather DePremio  Harry Lidsky  Rebecca Ross
Jason Higley  Marco Palmieri  Mona Sedky
Jeremy Hunt

*In recognition of the team members who investigated and successfully prosecuted a Deputy United States Marshal who engaged in a scheme to frame and imprison his ex-fiancée.*

Department of Labor OIG

Fontrell Baines Investigative Team

DOJ  DOL OIG  Ivant Romo
Ranee Katzenstein  Michael Blas  Marcus Valle
Michael Lee

*In recognition of the exemplary investigation and prosecution in the matter of U.S. v. Fontrell Baines, which mitigated Baines’ criminal manipulation of the pandemic benefit system and served as a public deterrent for those seeking to commit fraud.*

Department of State OIG

Theft of Government Pensions Investigative Team

CBP  DOJ  State OIG
Raymond Sanicola  Justin Ellard  Danielle Desfosses
T. Josiah Pertz  Stephen Green
Commercial Partners
Clint Lee  Jose Marquez
Stacy Nett  Christopher Swenson
Peter Yeager

*In recognition of outstanding investigative work that identified and brought to justice a subject responsible for a series of schemes that defrauded individuals of their retirement pay and other benefits amounting to approximately $5 million.*
Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

VA OIG’s Post-9/11 GI Bill Nationwide Fraud Initiative

DOJ
Christopher Howard
Lauren Archer
Darius Asgari
Patricia Baker
Davis Beasley
Gilbert Besana
Tina Bjorsvik
Robert Blenkinsop
Branton Blout
Mary Kay Bunting
Diana Cahill
Patrick Crockett
Sean Duffy
Robyn Eddy
Jason Farrell
Heidi Ficke
Greg Fitzgerald
Tiana Fohne
Spencer Gould

VA OIG
Hunter Hinton
Travis Hunter
Jorge Jimenez
Sean Keen
Molly King
Greg Kitsos
Michael Klier
Charles Knorr
Christ Kong
Jason Kravetz
Stefan Larese
Josh Lollar
Ian Loske
Robert Lupe
Michael McCarthy
Joseph McGivern
Sara Medina
Mark Mientek
Will Nelson

In recognition of VA OIG’s efforts to combat over $100 million in program fraud impacting VA’s Post-9/11 GI Bill, a foundational benefit that veterans earn through their service to our country.

Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

Purvis et al. Investigation

DOJ
KT Newton
Amanda Perwin
Harry Schimkat
Roger Stefin

VA OIG
William Bailey
Patrick Crockett
Ryan Gholson
Dan Henson
Hunter Hinton
Travis Hunter
Sean Keen
Lance Kramer

In recognition of the team’s multijurisdictional efforts in combating bribery within VA’s programs and operations where vendors paid bribes to VA employees in exchange for purchase card and service and construction contracts with VA.
Department of Veterans Affairs OIG
Zieson Construction Multiagency Investigative Team

DCAA
Colin Feeney
Melissa Schott

DOD
Carlos Campos
Cameron Edlefsen
Kyle Graham
Allen Stewart
Jacob Tudor

DOD OIG
Rebecca Bak
Kathy Palmer
Prashant Rangnath

DOJ
Paul Becker
Erica Curp
Kate Mahoney
Stacey Perkins Rock
Doan Vo

DOL OIG
Lee Gilgour

IRS
Jason Brushwood
Jerry Whitten

USSS
Terry Johnson
John Seubert

In recognition of exceptional achievement in uncovering a conspiracy to defraud multiple Federal agencies of $346 million through the misrepresentations of multiple companies’ small business set-aside statuses.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation OIG

U.S. v. Easterday Investigation Team

DOJ
Brian M. Donovan
John “Fritz” Scanlon
Russell E. Smoot

FDIC OIG
David Ceron
Toshiro Muragaki
Michael Rexrode

USPS
Misty Racimo

In recognition of the skilled investigation and prosecution of the Cody Easterday/Easterday Ranches, Inc.’s $244 million “Ghost Cattle” fraud scheme.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration OIG

Investigation of 20-year Kickbacks and Bribery Fraud Investigations Team

DOJ
Kimberly Shartar
Jamar Walker

IRS
Patrick Smith

NASA OIG
Thomas Atherton

USPS
Amy Longden
Victoria Mannion
Ben McElvey
Timothy Metz
Greg Nagurka
John Wilbur

In recognition of exceptional team achievement in the investigation of a 20-year kickback scheme that defrauded NASA and the Internal Revenue Service through $700,000 in bribes in exchange for Federal contracts.
National Security Agency OIG

Labor Mischarging

DOD OIG
Keith B.
Nathaniel B.

NSA OIG
Jefferson G.
Brook D.

DOJ
Cindy D.

Peter C.
Ericka H.

Holly H.
Lori H.
Maxine M.
Brian P.
Holly P.

In recognition of outstanding investigative work resulting in a jury conviction, after a monthlong trial, for fraud by a Chief Executive Officer who was a contractor within the intelligence community.

Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery

TEC Ventures LLC Investigative Team

DOJ
Suzanne Nebesky
Trenton Reichling
Julie Simonsen

SIGPR
Grace Bruno
Rogelio De Se Sedas
Peter Gabrielli

Christopher Hall
Jack Hanly
Megan Heister

In recognition of outstanding collaboration by a multidisciplinary investigative team of forensic accountants, investigators, and attorneys resulting in the prosecution of Daniel Tisone.

U.S. Postal Service OIG

Sean Baer

In recognition of Special Agent Sean Baer’s outstanding investigation efforts leading to the prosecution of a major Postal Service subcontractor who had been defrauding the USPS through its facilities maintenance services contract.

Compounding Solutions Insurance Fraud

DOD OIG
Derek Harmon

DOL OIG
Erica Faust

VA OIG
Ryan Salinas
Patricia Williams

DOJ
Jay McCormack
Patrick Queenan
Catherine Wagner

USPS OIG
Adam Watson

In recognition of the outstanding interagency investigative partnership led by Special Agent Adam Watson, which resulted in the prosecution of a major healthcare provider fraud scheme that defrauded health insurance providers and the DOL Office of Workers’ Compensation.

Proactive Analytics for Investigations into Pandemic Aid Fraud

PRAC
Sara Dendas
Brien Lorenze
Hong Zhou

USPS OIG
Wilbert Arevalo-Sorto
Michael Coss
Bryan Glinkin

Ingrid Petrakis
Harjot Sodhi

In recognition of the creation of the Special Unit Pandemic Response Dashboard, which resulted in identifying hundreds of pandemic relief cases, with criminal and administrative actions and tens of thousands of dollars returned to the USPS.
Award for Individual Accomplishment

Shortly after CIGIE’s creation by the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008, CIGIE’s new leadership established this award to specifically recognize sustained contributions by an individual or outstanding leadership of a project or event that contributes significantly to CIGIE’s mission.

Department of Health and Human Services OIG

Jon-Paul Correira

In recognition of tireless efforts as a leader within the CIGIE investigations community to create and staff an impactful policy working group, educate CIGIE agencies on the peer review process, and provide guidance to the OIG community.

Assistant Special Agent in Charge Jon-Paul Correira is a leader both within HHS OIG and across the CIGIE community. When he began working at HHS OIG’s headquarters as the Director of Policy and Inspections, he established and co-chaired the CIGIE Policy Developers Working Group to share materials and coordinate knowledge of IG policies and procedures.

To further continuing education and encourage information sharing across the CIGIE investigative community, Correira also organizes semiannual meetings to discuss and learn about relevant and timely topics, including legal and constitutional issues; health, safety, and protection matters; emerging threats; and other evolving issues. For these meetings, he has recruited speakers from across the Government, including the Department of Justice, the Executive Office of the President, the Office of Personnel Management, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as from OIGs across the community.

When President Biden issued Executive Order No. 14074, Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Safety, Correira drew on his depth of leadership experience and skills to help the OIG investigative community. He created a timeline for distribution to all working group members showing due dates for the executive order’s requirements. After drafting HHS OIG’s policy updates, he then shared these as examples for others. He also joined two interagency working groups developing guidance required under the executive order. Lastly, he worked with representatives from DOJ, HHS, EOP, and OPM to provide presentations to the Assistant Inspectors General for Investigations Committee and the CIGIE Policy Developers Working Group on their roles and views on the reporting requirements under the new executive order. These presentations were incredibly helpful and allowed CIGIE members to be better positioned to meet their new responsibilities under the executive order.
Government Ethics Award for Excellence

Department of State OIG
The Review of the Recruitment and Selection Process for Public Members of Foreign Service Selection Boards Team
Claire Barnard, Johanna Nathanson, Brian Volsky
Amy Bowser, Julie Silvers

In recognition of outstanding work reviewing and reporting on allegations of nepotism and favoritism in the contract award process for Department of State Foreign Service Selection Board public member positions.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Award for Excellence

Department of Transportation – CIGIE DEIA Committee
DEIA Recruitment Development & Recognition Team
CIGIE
Sarah Harrington
Tysan Williams

DOT OIG
Anita Bonds
Cordelia Bowers
Risikat Oshodi
Angelica Perez
Shawn Sales
Dion Smith

Education OIG
Joy Stith

EEOC OIG
Nina Murphy

HHS OIG
Stephanie Moore

NASA OIG
Jennifer Bryan
Adelle Harris
Laurence Hawkins
Jane Lusaka
Yessica Nelson
Bouvette Pennington

In recognition of outstanding cross-agency collaboration to design, produce, and manage the inaugural career fair and information session aimed at increasing awareness, recruitment, diversity, and engagement across all OIGs.
Special Act Awards for Excellence

Department of Agriculture OIG

Mark Barnhart

In recognition of his dedication to investigating animal fighting and other animal welfare violations throughout his career with USDA OIG.

Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

Jeffrey Ferris

In recognition of the personal sacrifice, exceptional investigative work, and unwavering dedication demonstrated in successfully investigating one of the most important COVID-19 pandemic fraud investigations in VA OIG history.

Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

Little Rock, Arkansas, Tornado Search and Rescue Response Team

Taylor Marsh
Jeremiah Reppert
Mickey Schuetzle
Kris Raper

In recognition of the VA OIG South Central Field Office’s sacrifice, extraordinary heroism, and unwavering devotion to duty and community while responding to the tornado outbreak in Central Arkansas on March 31, 2023.

Election Assistance Commission OIG

Get-Out-the-Vote Advisory Team

Sarah Dreyer
Joshua Shoemaker

In recognition of outstanding contributions to improve guidance on allowable and unallowable contribution expenditures.
Federal Communications Commission OIG
Hillary Burchuk and Thomas Bennett

In recognition of outstanding performance in the conduct of an investigation into multiple allegations of wrongdoing on behalf of the CIGIE Integrity Committee.

Peace Corps OIG
OIG Joint Evaluation/Investigation Review of Peace Corps Response to Reports of Sexual Assaults

Franz Blanchard
Paul Desautels
Kristine Hoffer
Reuben Marshall
Kareen Vares

In recognition of the team’s dedication and collaboration on a cross-functional review of reports of sexual assaults at eight Peace Corps posts.
Sentner Award for Dedication and Courage

On June 21, 2006, Special Agent William Sentner III of the DOJ OIG was working with the FBI on an investigation involving corrupt prison guards in a Federal prison in Tallahassee, Florida. As a result of the investigation, six prison guards were indicted for sexually abusing female inmates, smuggling contraband into the institution, and threatening the inmates with retaliation if they exposed the criminal acts.

Special Agent Sentner was part of the joint DOJ OIG-FBI team that went to the prison to arrest the six guards. At the prison, as one of the guards was being arrested, he produced a gun from his bag and began firing. The guard first shot a prison lieutenant and then shot Special Agent Sentner. Before the guard was able to fire at other personnel, Special Agent Sentner returned fire, fatally wounding the guard. Special Agent Sentner saved the lives of several other law enforcement officers while sacrificing his own, as he later died of his wound.

On October 22, 2008, President George W. Bush honored Special Agent Sentner by posthumously awarding him the Medal of Valor, the highest national award for a public safety officer. Today, CIGIE bestows the Sentner Award for Dedication and Courage on an individual or group who demonstrates uncommon selflessness, dedication to duty, or courage while performing OIG duties.

U.S. Agency for International Development OIG
A. Phillips

_In recognition of Special Agent Phillips’ uncommon selflessness, dedication to duty, and courage related to her tireless efforts to improve USAID OIG operations and her groundbreaking work on a violent crime gang task force._

In August 2019, the U.S. Government launched Joint Task Force Vulcan (JTFV), an initiative to disrupt, dismantle, and destroy the international criminal organization known as MS-13. Special Agent Phillips joined the JFTV in 2021 as the sole representative of USAID OIG, focusing on investigating allegations of U.S. Government funding and personnel involved in MS-13 activities.

Phillips has been an integral part of the task force, participating in several joint temporary duty assignments, including many abroad. She represented USAID OIG exceptionally well and provided critical support to the U.S. Government’s efforts. Moreover, Phillips learned valuable new investigative techniques that she brought back and shared with her USAID OIG colleagues, helping to ensure that the office will have additional opportunities for success in the future.
Multiple Disciplines Awards for Excellence

Department of Defense OIG

The Ukraine Oversight Interagency Working Group

DHS OIG
Thomas Kait
Melanie Lake
Tatyana Martell

DNI OIG
Alfred Perez
James Tyrell

DOE OIG
Amber Dobson
Arthur Scott
Terry Storms

DOD OIG
Mitch Berry
Christina Brummitt
Michelle Cerna
Bryan Clark
Mariah Cohen
Kimberly Crenshaw
Tyler Cruse
Todd Cyril
Richard Demler
Jeff DuBinok
David Edwards
Katrin Elliott
Andrew Fechhelm
Charles Fones
Dona Foreman
Marguerite Garrison
Patrick Gookin
Calvin Hursey
James Ives
Andrea Jafri
Kenneth Kops
Brett Mansfield
Kelly Mayo
Troy Mayo
Craig Michaels
Louis Mitchell
Rachel Neben
Stanley Newell
Makayla Nutt
Kevin O’Connor
Juan Pellicer
Giormary Peluyera
Dennis Petersen
Jason Pinkerton
Matthew Pitzer
Eston Presnell
Norman Printer
Megan Reed
Scott Ridge
Michael Roark
Gregory Romero
Mandy Rush
Victor Sanguanboon
Jesse Stasko
Sean Sullivan
Kaylan Swartz
Lance Taylor
James Trost
Jamie Vandesteeene
William Vannureren
Richard Vasquez
Bill Vickers
Ken Ward
Scott Whitaker
Timothy Wimette
Helina Wong
Warren Worth
David Yacobucci

DOD
Steven Blake
Joshua Ford
Chae Gayles
Carly Gifford
Poppy Greer
Marty Grenn
Steven Hite
Gerald Hughes
William Jenkins
Michelle Jordan
Derrick Lee
Scott Mooreland
George O’Campo
Adrian Outlaw
Riza Pagan
Mark Pezel
Jeff Ramsey
Jean Romero
Christopher Seaforth
Leslie Shipp
Thomas Sirois
Steven Stonely
Debby Windland
Davie Wright

DOJ OIG
Danielle Huntley
Sean Relay
Elizabeth Smith

Energy OIG
Jocelyn Chavez
Phil Holbrook

EX-IM OIG
Jonathon Walz
In recognition of the oversight partners who established an interagency working group, issued a joint strategic plan, and remain dedicated to ensuring whole-of-government oversight and reporting of the U.S. Government’s assistance to Ukraine Response.
Department of Defense OIG

The Civil Cyber Fraud Team

Jason Allmon       Kenneth DeChellis       Nicholas Mork
Daniel Alvarez    Julian Freeman        Anissa Nash
Hayden Amstuz     Jacob Gonzalez       Austin Ness
Terrell Ashford   Bryan Hanusey         Gbenga Oguntade
Mariatu Bah       Vaughn Hatton         Candace Patterson
Cayce Breitmaier  Ryan Hauck            Brendan Podgorski
Nicholas Brown    Eldewins Haynes       Gary Price
Jeffrey Burke     Robert Johnson        Kurt Roos II
Luke Carter       Sean Keaney           Paul Russell
Juana Cordova     Victor Kirk           Lindsay Smith
Greg Crawford     Amaury Marin          Justin Symonds
Eugene Cunneely   James Miniter         Tiffanie Tran
Carolyn Davis     Erik Mork             Amanda Wagschal

In recognition of the outstanding oversight efforts of the DOD OIG Civil Cyber Fraud Team, whose diligent work will bolster national security by ensuring that DOD contractors failing to meet cybersecurity standards are held fully accountable.

Department of Health and Human Services OIG

Protection of Children Served by the Administration for Children and Families

Dan Bittner       James Korn            Louise Schoggen
Kevin Crowell     Haley Lubeck          Dana Squires
Katherine Harris  Kevin Manley          Jessica Swanstrom
Maritza Hawrey    Diana Merelman        David Tawes
Andrea Hofstetter Christine Moritz      Sonia Viramontes
Althea Hosein     Debbie Personett      Abbi Warmker
Jenn Hutnich      Glenn Richter         Brian Whitley
Suriya Karim      Chris Riley           

In recognition of the HHS OIG’s multidisciplinary work improving child safety and well-being, including those missing from foster care, sex-trafficking victims, and those in Federal programs.
Department of Justice OIG

DOJ OIG Interdisciplinary Review Team for BOP’s Medical Services Contracts

Alyse Altenburg           Jeremy Jefferson           Michael Pannone
Shenika Cox               Jill Miscavage            Sachiko Reid
Andrew Germain            Tonya Morrison            Jorge Sosa
Amber Howell              Bradley Nelson            Glenn Stewart

In recognition of the exemplary efforts of the interdisciplinary team of DOJ OIG auditors, investigators, and inspectors in identifying systemic issues in the Federal Bureau of Prisons’ management and oversight of its medical services contracts.

Department of Veterans Affairs OIG

VA OIG Team that Scrutinized Security and Critical Incident Preparedness at VA Medical Facilities Nationwide

Andrew Albee               Nate Landkammer            Michael Soybel
Brittany Baker             Brad Lewis                Shawn Steele
Rhiannon Barron           Daniel Malik                Rachel Stroup
Cherelle Claiborne        Michael Martin            Aaron Weinberg
Kristina Dello             Karen Myers                Irena Yablonski
Marnette Dhooghe          Richard Pesce                Kotwoallama Reine Zerbo
Juliana Figueiredo        Sharonda Pryor
Abigail Genitempo         Noak Smith

In recognition of the team’s outstanding achievements in improving VA’s security and preparedness by mobilizing 150 staff to identify security vulnerabilities and incident preparedness deficiencies at 70 VA medical facilities in 44 States within one week.

Pandemic Response Accountability Committee

Pandemic Analytics Center of Excellence Team

PRAC

Eric Anderson              Jessi Hatter
Sarah Birmingham           Nisha Kumaswamy
Cedric Campbell            Brien Lorenze
Sansara Cannon             Minghua Ong
Sara Dendas                Harsha Vakkalanka
Virginia Grebasch          Hong Zhou

DOI OIG

Peter Sima-Eichler

SBA OIG

Michelle Blank

In recognition of the strategic use of data to assist the OIG community with risk-based oversight and accountability.
Pandemic Response Accountability Committee

Agile Oversight Forum Team

AmeriCorps OIG  
Dave Karakashian

CIGIE  
Jenn Contreras  
Amanda Freeman  
Doug Holt

DOD OIG  
Marcus Gullett  
Clorinda Hernandez  
Kevin O’Connor  
Megan Tormey

DOI OIG  
Eric Atkinson  
Troy Dopke  
Nicole Miller  
Kathleen Sedney  
Christopher Stubbs

DOJ OIG  
Jason Malmstrom

DOL OIG  
Heather (Phoenix) Atkins  
Tim Eagle  
Michael Frickel  
Carolyn Hantz

FDIC OIG  
Wendy Alvarado  
Bruce Lefever

GAO  
Cardell Johnson  
Elaine Howle

HHS OIG  
Kaitlyn Braswell  
Jennifer Wagner

HUD OIG  
Temika Edwards  
Martin Herrera  
Jonna Mueller

NASA OIG  
George Scott

PRAC  
Jenn Contreras  
Marcos Contreras  
George Goodwin  
Lynn Houston

SBA OIG  
Jeff Brindle  
Ron Shadid

SBA OIG  
Sam Bronson

State Partners  
Tina Kim  
Comptroller Office, NY

King County, WA

In recognition of the team’s efforts to execute a first-of-its-kind learning event focused on best practices in agile oversight.

Small Business Administration OIG

Interagency Team for SBA OIG’s AI-Augmented Hotline Complaints Review Implementation

PRAC  
Sara Dendas  
Brien Lorenze  
Minghua Ong  
Hong Zhou

SBA OIG  
Sam Bronson  
Julio Gonzalez

Tia Mace  
Hala Nsouli

In recognition of an interagency effort between SBA OIG and the PRAC’s Pandemic Analytics Center of Excellence to implement artificial intelligence topic modelling to reduce a massive spike in pandemic-related hotline complaints.
U.S. Postal Service OIG
Scans Away from the Delivery Location Power BI Tool
Jeffrey Agnew  Michael Butler  Germaine Kropilak
Steve Baumert  Adam Iravani

In recognition of outstanding collaboration to build an interactive tool that detects USPS package scans away from delivery addresses, positively impacting customer service, data integrity, and ensuring compliance with regulations and policies.

U.S. Postal Service OIG
Postal Service’s Fleet Card Program
Michael Blaszczak  Alyse Hairston  Brent Radobicky
Stacey Bush-Simpson  Steven Mason  Greg Williams
Eugene Fayer  Frank McElligott

In recognition of the USPS OIG cross-cutting team’s work focusing on the internal controls, fraud, waste, and abuse associated with employee credit cards usage.
Alexander Hamilton Award

Alexander Hamilton was one of our country’s most influential Founding Fathers. He dedicated much of his life to public service, including as an aide-de-camp to General George Washington during the Revolutionary War, a representative at the Constitutional Convention, and Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, where he laid the foundation for our modern banking system. A lesser-known fact is that after Hamilton left his government positions in the 1790s, President Adams and former President Washington asked Hamilton to serve his country once more as tensions with France rose and the threat of war grew. As a result, Hamilton was the Inspector General of the United States Army from 1798 to 1800. Throughout his long career, IG Hamilton demonstrated a commitment to building and sustaining strong government structures and programs. In recognition of his accomplishments and his legacy, CIGIE presents this award to the individual or group who demonstrates outstanding achievements in improving the integrity, efficiency, or effectiveness of agency operations. The Alexander Hamilton Award constitutes CIGIE’s highest recognition.

Department of Veterans Affairs OIG
Team for Deficiencies in Lethal Means Safety Training, Firearms Access Assessment, and Safety Planning for Patients with Suicidal Behaviors by Firearm

Stephanie Beres  Victoria Eatherton  Meggan MacFarlane
Karen Berthiaume  Reynelda Garoutte  Marie Parry
Rachelle Biddles  Christopher Hoffman  Natalie Sadow
Jennifer Christensen  Dannette Johnson  Amber Singh
Limin Clegg  Terri Julian  Kelli Toure
Nhien Dutkin  Ping Luo  Elizabeth Winter

In recognition of the team’s rigorous review of the medical records of 480 patients with suicidal behavior events, VA policy, staff training, and survey results of over 3,000 clinicians to identify actions needed to prevent veterans’ deaths by suicide.

Approximately 17 veterans die by suicide daily, and 7 in 10 of those are from firearm injuries. Increasing the time and distance between a person in crisis and their access to firearms can save lives. The VA has made eliminating veteran suicide its top clinical priority.

The VA OIG team evaluated VA care providers’ completion of required lethal means safety (LMS) training on simple interventions that educate and encourage veterans and caregivers to use safe firearms storage practices, which are critical in preventing suicide.

The team made seven recommendations to facilitate suicide prevention by enhancing oversight, provider training, and lethal means assessments and interventions, while reducing barriers to firearms access discussions. As a result of their work, the VA is taking important steps to improve lethal means suicide prevention. These include convening subject matter experts to update the VA’s national policy on suicide prevention training, strengthening the LMS curriculum, and amending VA medical record templates to ensure care providers assess, discuss, and document firearms access and safe storage concerns with veterans.
26th Annual Award Ceremony
November 7, 2023

In Remembrance
Remembering Our Colleagues

David L. Hunt served as the Inspector General of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from 2011 to 2023, after serving as the Acting Inspector General for nearly 2 years. He first joined the FCC in 1996 as an attorney-advisor in the Pricing Division of the former Common Carrier Bureau, where he helped implement some of the most complex provisions of the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

From 1999 to 2006, he was a senior attorney in the FCC’s Enforcement Bureau where he managed formal complaints and conducted investigations, including a 2-year investigation of abuses within the Telecommunications Relay System. In early 2006 he joined the FCC’s Office of Inspector General as the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations.

During his time at the FCC and FCC OIG, IG Hunt was awarded the FCC Gold Award as well as Excellence in Investigations Awards from CIGIE’s predecessor organizations. Prior to joining the FCC, he worked as a trial attorney at several national law firms in Washington, DC, and Los Angeles, California, representing major national corporations in complex antitrust and regulatory proceedings. IG Hunt passed away on January 10, 2023.

Senior Special Agent Richard M. McGrade served with distinction for over 21 years in the Department of Transportation (DOT) OIG’s New York City Office. Rich began his long law enforcement career as a New York City Police Officer in 1993 before becoming a Deputy U.S. Marshal in 1996. In 1999, he served as a Special Agent with the Coast Guard Investigative Service and then transferred to DOT OIG in 2002. Rich was an aggressive investigator, who was well respected by his peers and prosecutors alike. He secured numerous criminal convictions, trial successes, and civil monetary recoveries. A native of Queens, New York, Rich was a devout Mets fan. Rich passed away on May 10, 2023. He will be remembered for his integrity, sense of humor, and dedication to his friends and family.
Hubert N. Sparks served in the U.S. Army and later began a 50-year distinguished career working for the U.S. Government. He was appointed as the first Inspector General of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) in 1989, where he worked until 2002. In 1999, he was appointed to concurrently serve as the first Inspector General of the Denali Commission. In addition to his work pioneering independent oversight at the ARC and the Denali Commission, IG Sparks served 29 years in oversight roles with the Offices of Inspector General for the Departments of Agriculture, Homeland Security, and Veterans Affairs. IG Sparks returned to the ARC to again serve as its Inspector General in 2011.

During his long career in the OIG community, IG Sparks served as the first Vice Chairperson of the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency, a predecessor to CIGIE. He also worked closely with CIGIE’s other predecessor, the President’s Council on Integrity and Efficiency, serving as the only Designated Federal Entity IG on it for a number of years. He was a member of CIGIE and was active in the Audit and Inspection & Evaluation Committees. IG Sparks also started a working group, which continues to meet today, that served as a forum where small OIGs could come together to discuss their shared challenges. IG Sparks passed away on June 6, 2023.
26th Annual Award Ceremony
November 7, 2023

Acknowledgements
A special “thank you” to all the review panel members.

Audit Awards for Excellence Panel

Terry Gibson  
*Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation OIG*

Anthony “Tony” Cruz  
*Department of Energy OIG*

Brett Mansfield  
*Department of Defense OIG*

Melanie Sorenson  
*Department of the Interior OIG*

Inspections, Evaluations, Management, IT and Special Act Awards for Excellence Panel

Sonya Cerne  
*Farm Credit Administration OIG*

Norbert Vint  
*Office of Personnel Management OIG*

William “Bill” English  
*General Services Administration OIG*

John Seger  
*Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation OIG*

Investigation Awards for Excellence Panel

Paul Conlon  
*Federal Housing Finance Agency OIG*

Geoffrey Cherrington  
*Office of the Special IG for Pandemic Recovery*

Megan Wallace  
*National Science Foundation OIG*

Robert “Bob” Kwalwasser  
*U.S. Postal Service OIG*

Multiple Categories Awards for Excellence Panel

William “Bill” Yeager  
*Department of Homeland Security OIG*

Ross Weiland  
*National Aeronautics and Space Administration OIG*

Sarah Dreyer  
*Election Assistance Commission OIG*

Sheldon Shoemaker  
*Small Business Administration OIG*

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A resounding “thank you” to those who assisted with the preparation of the awards ceremony!