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**PRESS RELEASE:**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL ANNOUNCES  
SENIOR STAFF SELECTIONS**

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WASHINGTON - Department of State Inspector General Howard J. Krongard announced today the filling of several senior management positions in the Office of Inspector General (OIG). "We are proud that such dedicated and qualified members of the Civil Service have chosen to join us in senior management," according to Mr. Krongard. The individuals selected for the various positions are as follows:

James B. Burch, the new Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, comes to OIG from the U.S. Secret Service where he was the Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Office. Mr. Burch has 27 years of federal law enforcement experience, including 5 years as the Special Agent in Charge of the Vice Presidential Protective Division for the U.S. Secret Service.

Until Mr. Burch's arrival in OIG, Peter C. Emerzian will be Acting Assistant Inspector General for Investigations. Mr. Emerzian comes to OIG on a detail from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Office of Inspector General where he is the Special Agent in Charge of their New England Region.

Karen D. Bell, formerly the Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audits in the Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR), fills the same position in OIG. Prior to joining SIGIR, Ms. Bell was Deputy Director in Information Services for the Internal Revenue Service.

Richard G. "Nick" Arnston, former Chief of Staff for SIGIR and a retired Lt. Col. with 29 years of U.S. Army service, joins OIG staff as Iraq/Afghanistan Coordinator. Among other duties, he will oversee OIG's proposed Middle East Regional Office.

Patrick A. Dickriede will be joining OIG as on-site head of the proposed Middle East Regional Office. Mr. Dickriede, a former Senior Foreign Service Analyst in the International Affairs and Trade Division of GAO, comes to OIG from SIGIR where he was a Senior Audit Manager.

Manuela “Mannie” Tantawy has returned to OIG after a two-year excursion tour as a Human Resources Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria. Ms. Tantawy will serve as Deputy Executive Director for Management for OIG.

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