



Investigations Committee

NEWSLETTER

June 2008

Investigations Committee Members

Patrick P. O'Carroll, Jr.

IG SSA, Chair

Christine Boesz

IG NSF

Paul Brachfeld

IG NA

Charles Coe

AIG DOE

Glenn Fine

IG DOJ

Donald Gambatesa

IG AID

Carl Hoecker

IG USCP

Brian Miller

IG GSA

George Opfer

IG DVA

Bill Roderick

Acting IG, EPA

Rick Skinner

IG DHS

Eric Thorson

IG SBA

Issuance of Credentials to Retired OIG Agents

At the March 26, 2008 Investigations Committee meeting, a representative of the Office of the Chief Counsel, Social Security Administration (SSA) OIG, made a presentation on the purpose and scope of the statutory authority (*The Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004*) for issuing credentials to retired OIG agents. This was done at my request in response to a recent survey which revealed inconsistencies among the policies and practices of various OIGs in handling this situation.

A draft policy for the use of the OIG investigative community was distributed, with comments requested from the attending agencies. SSA OIG will compile and circulate the comments and expects to have a final draft policy ready for approval at the next Investigations Committee meeting. Once approved, a template will be created for voluntary use by the OIG investigative community.

Peer Review Schedule

The AIGI working group charged with updating the peer review schedule (which now runs through mid-2009) has issued a draft schedule through 2014. All AIGIs were asked to comment on the draft. Final adjustments are underway. The new schedule, for the most part, will cover those OIGs with statutory law enforcement authority from the *Inspector General Act* who are required to be reviewed (plus several additional agencies).

Undercover Review Committee

At its March 2008 meeting, members of the Investigations Committee were provided with a draft proposal for the establishment of an Undercover Review Committee, as required by the Attorney General guidelines for agencies with statutory law enforcement authority. The draft plan is an update of a draft proposal developed but not finalized in 2004. This updated plan is more concise and matches the FBI's policy where possible. The draft proposal was distributed for comments to Committee members and the entire AIGI community. The comments currently are being incorporated into the final document.

Upcoming Meeting:
June 12, 2008
at 10:00 a.m.



Investigations Committee Newsletter

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FBI Mutual Notification

The December 2003 Attorney General Guidelines for agencies with statutory law enforcement require that in areas of concurrent jurisdiction, OIGs and the FBI must notify each other in writing of the initiation of a criminal investigation. AIGI Rich Rhode of the SSA OIG has been spearheading efforts to develop a more streamlined and effective way for OIGs to notify the FBI of case openings. Discussions have centered around a centralized automated process to accomplish this. AIGI Rhode was informed recently that the FBI is in the final stages of testing a new electronic mutual notification process. Within the next few weeks, the FBI will be meeting with IG representatives to present the new process for discussion and approval.

Integrity Committee Presentation

Ken Kaiser, Assistant Director of the FBI's Criminal Investigative Division and Chair of the PCIE Integrity Committee, provided a briefing at the March 2008 Investigations Committee meeting on the process for referring and handling allegations of Inspector General and OIG senior staff misconduct. Topics included the standard for review, the notification process, and due process for the OIG involved. Assistant Director Kaiser noted that the Committee does not process EEO or whistleblower allegations. His presentation and his thoughtful responses to questions were appreciated by the Investigations Committee members.