

# Inspection and Evaluation Committee

President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

## INSPECTION AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### JOHNNIE FRAZIER

IG Commerce, Chair

### CHRISTINE BOESZ

IG NSF

### CLARK KENT ERVIN

IG Homeland Security

### GLENN FINE

IG Justice

### GORDON HEDDELL

IG Labor

### RICHARD GRIFFIN

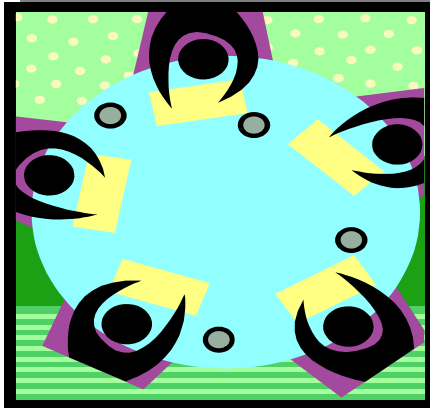
IG VA

### DARA CORRIGAN

Acting IG HHS

### STEPHEN SMITH

IG FCA



## FEEDBACK NEEDED ON UPDATE OF THE QUALITY STANDARDS FOR INSPECTIONS

Elise Ennis (Energy OIG) recently asked Roundtable members to contact her as soon as possible with comments on the *Quality Standards for Inspections*. Please send comments via email at [Elise.Ennis@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Elise.Ennis@hq.doe.gov) or by phone at 202-586-7239.

At the April Roundtable meeting, Elise noted two proposals that have sparked great interest: (1) increasing the inspector/evaluator training requirement from 40 to 80 hours every 2 years, and (2) conducting external peer reviews. She reported that resource constraints at some OIGs might make increased training requirements difficult to meet, and suggested the standards instead require units to "strive to achieve 80 hours, with a minimum of 40 hours of training required." As for the second issue, Elise noted that establishing a peer review

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process seems appropriate given that audit and investigative operations undergo such reviews and that the Administration is emphasizing performance evaluation.

Once Elise receives comments from the Roundtable, she will incorporate changes and send a draft of the proposed standards to members for a final review. The I&E Committee hopes to complete this project within the next few months.

## FUTURE COMMITTEE PROJECTS

Several new project ideas are being considered by the I&E Committee and Roundtable. If your OIG is interested in taking the lead on or participating in any of these projects, please contact Committee Chair Johnnie Frazier, or Debbie Holmes or Jill Gross.

### U.S. Government Response to Biological Incidents

Dave Williams, USPS IG, has started a review of how federal agencies handled the 2001 anthrax attacks, with the goal of identifying lessons learned and actions needed to ensure an effective response to similar attacks in the future. He is looking for participation in a joint review from other OIGs whose agencies were involved in the 2001 attacks and related remediations, e.g., the Environmental Protection Agency, the Departments of



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next I&E Committee and Roundtable meetings are being scheduled. Labor IG Gordon Heddell will host the Committee meeting. The Government Printing Office will host the Roundtable meeting.

For more information about any item in this newsletter, contact Debbie Holmes at 202-482-2600 ([Dholmes@oig.doc.gov](mailto:Dholmes@oig.doc.gov)) or Jill Gross at 202-482-2754 ([Jgross@oig.doc.gov](mailto:Jgross@oig.doc.gov)).

Homeland Security and Health and Human Services, and possibly the Department of Defense. Roundtable members discussed this review topic at their April meeting and agreed that it would be a good one to pursue but that it should also cover chemical, nuclear and other potential threats. Commitments for participation in the joint review with the U.S. Postal Service are being sought.

### Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA)

Labor IG Gordon Heddell asked the Roundtable to consider an interagency review of the act to broaden the look at FECA issues from beyond DOL's perspective. The PCIE Audit Committee is also considering FECA as a possible topic of review.

### Other Potential Projects

Committee and Roundtable members are considering projects in two general areas—self-help (guides, best practices, etc.) and crosscutting work. Possible self-help topics are as follows:

- Guides for conducting reviews of issues of government-wide concern, such as the already produced purchase and travel card program guides.
- I&E training opportunities—e.g., developing curricula based on core competencies, expanding use of IGnet and the PCIE/ECIE web site, iden-

tifying/developing video training.

- An online directory of OIG I&E reports by subject (similar to one for reports on purchase/travel card use).
- A model policies and procedures manual for inspection and evaluation units.

Crosscutting reviews being considered include the following:

- Physical and personnel security.
- Disaster preparedness.
- Procurement/government contracting.
- Information technology.
- Overseas inspections.
- Visa and immigration issues.
- Physical security and disaster improvements prompted by the September 11 attacks.
- Shared responsibility for visas by State, Homeland Security, and other foreign affairs agencies.
- Intelligence sharing-- Defense, Homeland Security, State, CIA, and FBI.
- Potential conflicts of interest related to the award of federal grants.
- Special agreements and memorandums of understanding between federal agencies.
- Accident reduction/safety.

- For relevant OIGs, monitoring the employment of healthcare professionals who are named on the HHS Exclusion list or in the National Practitioner Data Bank or Federation of State Licensing Board disciplinary files.

If you would like more information on any of these projects, please contact Debbie Holmes.

### **JOURNAL OF PUBLIC INQUIRY SPRING/SUMMER 2004**

At the request of GSA IG Dan Levinson, also editor-in-chief of the *Journal*, the Spring/Summer 2004 edition will focus on I&E issues and news. This is an excellent opportunity to highlight pertinent issues or unique practices within the OIG I&E community.

George Grob, HHS OIG, is preparing a historical perspective of I&E work produced since passage of the IG act. Johnnie Frazier, Commerce IG, will author an article on the nature of I&E activities in specific agencies, including a look at some of the more controversial issues facing the I&E community.

[Directory of OIG Reports on Purchase and Travel Card Use](#) – Please continue to send web site links for completed reports on either of these topics to Eleazar Velazquez at [evelazquez@oig.doc.gov](mailto:evelazquez@oig.doc.gov) or to Debbie Holmes at [Dholmes@oig.doc.gov](mailto:Dholmes@oig.doc.gov).