

Inspection and Evaluation Committee

President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

June 2005

INSPECTION AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JOHNNIE FRAZIER
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IG Labor
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IG VA
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IG HHS
STEPHEN SMITH
IG FCA
HOWARD KRONGARD
IG State

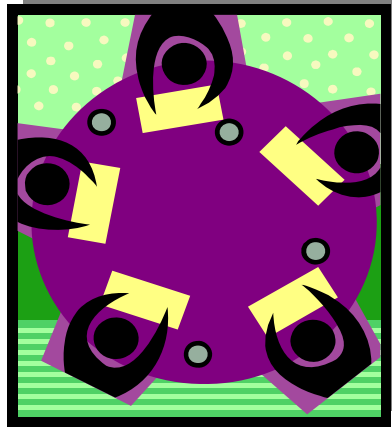


UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next I&E Committee and Roundtable meetings will be in October. (Hosts for both meetings are needed.)

COMMITTEE CHAIR ADDRESSES IG CONFEREES

In his June 9th presentation to the Mid-Atlantic Intergovernmental Audit Forum in Ocean City, Johnnie Frazier highlighted some of the positive I&E contributions taking place throughout the I&E community and making government work better. Johnnie also recently spoke to the Spring conference of the Association of IGs in Miami, Florida. He used his remarks to the conferees of federal, state, and local IGs from across the nation to share information on I&E best practices, I&E standards and revisions,



and other matters involving I&E activities.

JUNE I&E ROUNDTABLE MEETING HELD AT THE U.S. GPO OIG OFFICE

Government Printing Office IG Gregory Brower hosted the June 2 I&E Roundtable meeting. He provided an overview of GPO's unique operations and organization, which operates under the direction of the Congress' Joint Committee on Printing (JCP). Created under Title 44, GPO OIG follows the basic elements of the IG Act, with limited exceptions, and is the only legislative branch OIG that participates in the PCIE/ECIE.

Tony Ogden, AIG for Administration and Inspections and Counsel, also briefed Roundtable members on GPO's inspection unit. The unit is currently working on a disaster and emergency preparedness review, primarily COOP, as part of the I&E Roundtable working group's efforts.

Since GPO is responsible for printing and transporting passports to the State Department, the office is also heavily

involved in passport reviews. GPO OIG's inspection unit performs reviews of passport costs, design, transportation, product and security-related issues.

I&E Roundtable Chair Jill Gross thanked IG Brower and his staff for sharing information on their operations and ideas for the I&E community. Jill also welcomed several new agencies and members to the Roundtable: Lisa Allen, DAIG – Commerce; Gregory Jaynes, DAIG – TVA; David Maddox, AIG – Legal Services Corporation; and Dahnelle Payson, DAIG – NASA.

Jill noted the recent departure of George Grob, former I&E Roundtable Chair and HHS Deputy for Inspections, from the OIG community. He accepted a position as Executive Director of the Citizen's Health Care Working Group and will be greatly missed in the I&E community. Debbie Holmes, former staff to the Roundtable, also has moved on – to NASA OIG. Commerce's Christine Shafik and Erin Reuther will now be providing support to the I&E Committee and Roundtable.

I&E COMMITTEE'S 2004 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS ACHIEVEMENTS



I&E Committee Chair Johnnie Frazier presented the Committee's 2004 Annual Report at the PCIE/ECIE

Retreat in Philadelphia last month. The report highlights the Committee and Roundtable's recent work, including the new *Quality Standards for Inspections* and the results from the survey of I&E units. The annual report also features the ongoing project on disaster and emergency preparedness and cites the 2004 PCIE Awards for Excellence in Evaluations presented to the departments of Energy and Justice, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Johnnie said several working groups are developing best practice and training guides and working on improving I&E training.

For copies of the Committee's annual report, contact Belinda Robinson, Commerce OIG, at brobinson@oig.doc.gov.

GET THE SCOOP

For more information about any item in this newsletter, contact Erin Reuther at 202-482-4069 (ereuther@oig.doc.gov) or Jill Gross at 202-482-2754 (jgross@oig.doc.gov).

PROJECTS UNDER WAY

BEST PRACTICES GUIDE FOR REVIEWING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The disaster and emergency preparedness working group met April 28 to define the scope of the project. The group, led by Jennifer Carmichael, DIA OIG, has developed three areas of emphasis for its guide that could be useful to other agencies reviewing disaster/emergency preparedness. It will focus on preparedness, response, and continuity of operations. It also will identify best practices, vulnerabilities, regulations and guidance, and provide a

general summary of OIG review findings.

The product is still a "working" document, and the group welcomes further input from other OIGs. To date, representatives from Commerce, Education, EPA, DIA, DHS, DOE, FEC, FDIC, and NRO have participated in the project with Jennifer and Jim Seccord, also from DIA.

For more information or to participate in the next working group meeting, e-mail Jennifer at jcarmichael@dia.mil or Christine Shafik of Commerce OIG at cshafik@oig.doc.gov.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

(FEDERAL EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION ACT) WORKING GROUP
I&E Roundtable members discussed the feasibility of starting a FECA joint working group. At its April meeting, the I&E Committee expressed interest in FECA work, since several agencies have performed recent reviews in the area or have some underway now, including VA, Postal Service, Labor, Commerce and Interior.

The working group could develop a best practices guide outlining recurring issues, potential areas for cost savings, and information resources. It also could exchange information and ideas as each OIG completes its own agency-specific review.

OTHER POTENTIAL I&E COMMUNITY PROJECTS

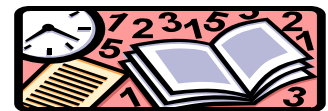
At the June meeting, I&E Roundtable members suggested several additional joint projects for consideration. One of the suggested topics was federal grant management.

Specifically, a joint review could look at various aspects of grant

management and oversight, including grantee compliance with both financial and performance terms of the grants, the peer review process for selecting grantees, the impact or effectiveness of grant programs, etc. Education, DHS, EPA, Energy, Commerce, and Justice members expressed interest in this review. For more information, contact Deb Schweikert of Education OIG at deb.schweikert@ed.gov.

INSPECTION MANUAL EXCHANGE

Several I&E units are willing to share their inspection manuals with OIGs developing or updating their own inspection manuals. Please contact Erin Reuther at ereuther@oig.doc.gov for more information or to share your inspection manual.



TRAINING NEWS

I&E Committee and Roundtable members are working with the HR Committee's PCIE Skillsoft working group to identify online courses especially useful in training I&E staff in core competency areas. Commerce OIG staff also will provide TeamMate program training to those interested in electronic work papers. Contact Christine Shafik at cshafik@oig.doc.gov for more information on either topic.

THANKS!

Thanks to Justice IG Glenn Fine for hosting the April 8th I&E Committee meeting and to GPO IG Greg Brower for hosting the June 2 meeting of the I&E Roundtable.