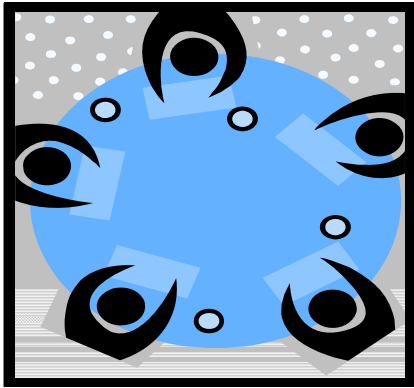


# Inspection and Evaluation Committee

President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

April 2006



## INSPECTION AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**JOHNNIE FRAZIER**  
IG Commerce, Chair  
**CHRISTINE BOESZ**  
IG NSF  
**CARL CLINEFELTER**  
IG FCA  
**GLENN FINE**  
IG Justice  
**GORDON HEDDELL**  
IG Labor  
**HOWARD KRONGARD**  
IG State  
**DANIEL LEVINSON**  
IG HHS



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next I&E Committee meeting will be held jointly with the I&E Roundtable. The meeting is scheduled for June 6, and will be hosted by the State Department IG, Howard Krongard. Details will be sent via email.

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION SYMPOSIUM WAS WELL ATTENDED

Labor IG Gordon Heddell and Commerce IG Johnnie Frazier co-hosted last month's Workers' Compensation Symposium at the Department of Labor. Approximately 150 representatives from various federal OIGs participated in the half-day symposium on March 22. Presentations included a review of the history and an overview of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) program by the director of Labor's Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) in the Employment Standards Administration.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Heddell stated the key objectives of the symposium were to (1) understand the respective roles and responsibilities of DOL and the employing agencies in managing the FECA program, and (2) use this information to implement a more strategic and collaborative approach for using OIG resources to help ensure the program's integrity, efficiency and effectiveness.

Mr. Frazier further added that initially he was skeptical about pursuing work on the FECA program. He noted that the Commerce program was not well defined and many Commerce bureaus did not understand their specific roles and respon-

sibilities. Mr. Frazier emphasized that communication between all those responsible for the program throughout the department, and with Labor officials, is important to successful management of the program. He encouraged other IGs to first look at how the program operates in their own offices before starting to look at their agencies' management of workers' compensation.

Michael Hill, the DOL Philadelphia regional inspector general for audits, provided an overview of recent OIG audit, inspection, and investigative reports by the Department of Labor, Social Security Administration, Veterans Affairs, Commerce, and the Postal Service. He noted that many of the OIG reports acknowledged a central theme, namely the need for FECA reform in order to reduce program costs. This includes a legislative proposal to move disabled FECA claimants to the Federal retirement system when they reach retirement age. Mr. Hill noted that current OIG FECA-related work is focusing on wage cross match (SSA); data mining (DOL); ineligible dependents (DOL); fee schedule and adjudication (USPS); and a comprehensive evaluation of an agency workers' compensation program (Commerce).

A main point of discussion during the symposium was about a proposed pro-

protocol for conducting audits, inspections, evaluations, or investigations of workers' compensation. The protocol aims to provide a more coordinated approach to conducting FECA-related work in the OIG community and to promote collaboration across these units. The proposed protocol should help ensure that FECA audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations contribute to improved internal controls, reduced costs, return of claimants to work, and identification and prevention of fraud, waste and abuse.

The proposed protocol also addresses joint reviews that could result in recommendations to the Department of Labor and/or its Office of Workers' Compensation Programs. In this case, the protocol suggests that other agency OIGs, whose work may result in recommendations to DOL, consider working with DOL OIG on the project since it is the only OIG that can issue recommendations directly to Labor or its OWCP.

To review the proposed protocol or other material and questions and answers from the symposium, visit [www.oig.dol.gov/fecasymposium.htm](http://www.oig.dol.gov/fecasymposium.htm). To provide comments on the protocol, contact [Hill.Michael@oig.dol.gov](mailto:Hill.Michael@oig.dol.gov) by April 30, 2006.

### GET THE SCOOP!

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

## TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHES I&E PILOT

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA), who is responsible for audits and investigations of the Internal Revenue Service, is piloting an Inspections and Evaluations staff through September 30, 2006. TIGTA's IG will then evaluate the results of the pilot and, if favorable, formally establish an I&E unit in TIGTA OIG.

TIGTA held a kick-off meeting for the pilot project in Washington, D.C. March 7-9. The staff met to discuss the objectives and goals of the pilot. A highlight of the meeting was a presentation by I&E Committee Chair Johnnie Frazier. He emphasized the need for I&E staff to remain flexible and noted that projects often require coordination between auditors, investigators, and inspectors. The presentation was attended by the TIGTA IG J. Russell George, the Deputy Inspectors General for Audit and Investigations, the Assistant Inspector General for Information Technology, the Inspection and Evaluation Staff and the Congressional/Media Liaison.

Members of the pilot staff were selected from Office of Audit volunteers. They include geographically dispersed personnel from TIGTA offices in Los Angeles, CA; Dallas, TX; Cincinnati, OH; Philadelphia, PA; and Washington, D.C. TIGTA OIG noted that the pilot already has projects in the pipeline. Some of these projects will include a review of the Federal Employees' Compen-

sation Act program and an evaluation of the President's Tax Reform Panel recommendations.

The pilot staff is currently located in the Office of Audit. The vision for the staff is that it will provide the IG with new capabilities and flexibilities that will augment the already strong TIGTA OIG audit and investigative organizations.

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Board of Governors of the newly formed Inspector General Institute (IGI) is seeking qualified professionals to serve as Executive Director and Deans and Associate Deans for IGI's Schools of Management, Audit and Inspections, and Investigations. Resumes and salary requirements should be sent by May 1, 2006, to: Robert Emmons, IG, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Room 470, 1200 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005

For more information and position descriptions, see [www.ignet.gov](http://www.ignet.gov) or [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

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The I&E Committee and Roundtable are also seeking suggestions for potential courses that would benefit the I&E community and that could be provided by IGI. This information should enable the Institute to focus on critical knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform I&E work as IGI also will do for other elements of the OIG community. Please contact Jill Gross at [jgross@oig.doc.gov](mailto:jgross@oig.doc.gov) with any suggestions for inspections and evaluation training.