Inspection and Evaluation Committee

President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

INSPECTION AND
EVALUATION COMMITTEE
MEMBERS

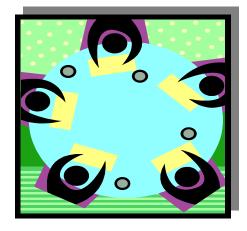
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IG Justice
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IG Labor
RICHARD GRIFFIN
IG VA
DANIEL LEVINSON
Acting IG HHS and IG GSA
STEPHEN SMITH
IG FCA



UPCOMING MEETINGS

The I&E Committee will hold its next meeting on either April 7 or 8 at the Department of Justice OIG. (We'll notify you when the date is firm.)

Thanks to the Government Printing Office for agreeing to host the next I&E Roundtable meeting on June 2.



I&E ROUNDTABLE MEETING HELD AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OIG

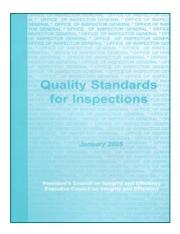
I&E Roundtable Chair Jill Gross opened the February 17 meeting by thanking Veterans Affairs IG Richard Griffin for hosting the gathering. She welcomed the Roundtable's newest member, Bill Hadley, who became the CIA's AIG for Inspections in September 2004.

IG Griffin spoke about the inspections process at VA, reporting that his Office of Healthcare Inspections, headed by Dr. David Daigh, uses a proactive approach to ensure that veterans are getting the care they deserve: Dr. Daigh's unit reviews VA hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and other health-care facilities on a cyclical basis. Dr. Daigh gave an in-depth description of his inspection corps—which includes doctors, nurses, and

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other health-care professionals—and highlighted cooperative efforts among VA OIG inspectors, auditors, and investigators. IG Griffin credited Dr. Daigh and his staff for sharing best health-care practices identified by VA reviews with other medical centers, and thus enhancing medical care for the nation's veterans.

QUALITY STANDARDS FOR INSPECTIONS READY FOR DISTRIBUTION



The newly revised *PCIE Quality Standards for Inspections* is back from the printers. Special thanks again to Energy OIG for taking the lead on updating the standards and to Commerce OIG for shepherding them through production, printing, and distribution.

The publication is posted on the IGNet at

http://www.ignet.gov/pande/st andards/oeistds.pdf and the Commerce OIG web site at http://www.oig.doc.gov/oig/re ports/other_publications/Qualit yStandards01-05.pdf.

Copies were distributed to Roundtable members at the February 17 meeting, and will be sent to the Government Accountability Office and the Association of Inspectors General. For additional copies, contact Belinda Robinson, Commerce OIG, at brobinson@oig.doc.gov.

PROGRESS ON PEER REVIEW PROPOSAL

Bob Ashbaugh, DHS AIG for Inspections and chair of the Roundtable's External Evaluation working group, reported that the group has prepared a draft plan for conducting voluntary external evaluations, or peer reviews, for the I&E community. The draft proposal is being reviewed by working group members, will be distributed to the Roundtable for comment, and presented to the I&E Committee perhaps at its next meeting. The goal is to have the document ready for possible discussion at the May 2005 IG retreat in Philadelphia. Bob noted that he has volunteered DHS OIG as the first office to undergo an optional I&E external evaluation.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

BEST PRACTICES GUIDE FOR
REVIEWING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Jennifer Carmichael, Defense Intelligence Agency OIG, provided an update on a proposal to develop a best practices guide for reviewing disaster preparedness, and distributed a draft Inspector's Checklist for Assessing Disaster Preparedness Programs. To receive a faxed copy of the checklist, call Debbie Holmes at 202-482-2600.

Jennifer noted that the Defense Intelligence Agency,
Commerce Department, and
National Reconnaissance Office have disaster preparedness projects either under
way or completed. She also
offered DIA consulting assistance to anyone starting a
disaster preparedness review.

If you have suggestions or know of completed projects for the best practices guide, email Jennifer at jcarmichael@dia.mil.

NEW INPUT IS NEEDED FOR ON-LINE DIRECTORY OF PURCHASE AND TRAVEL CARD REPORTS

Eleazar Velazquez, Commerce OIG, noted that the bibliography of purchase and travel card reports, located on the IGNet, needs to be updated. If your OIG has recently released reports on these topics, please send a web link to the reports' location or e-mail copies to evelazquez@oig.doc.gov.

The bibliography, which contains 120 publicly released reports, is located at http://www.ignet.gov/randp/cards/cards.html. You can view the reports by agency or category—overall program management, personal use/abuse, internal controls, and best practices.

GET THE SCOOP

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

TRAINING NEWS

- Commerce OIG hosted procurement training at its Denver regional office on February 7, 8, 9, 2005. Representatives from Energy, EPA, Housing and Urban Development, and the National Science Foundation OIGs joined Commerce OIG staff for the 3day overview of federal contracting.
- Special thanks to the Defense Intelligence Agency OIG for providing 12 slots for Roundtable members to attend training on strategic decision making and negotiation. The sessions were given at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C., by Harvard University professors on January 26-27, 2005.
- Dr. Dave Cather, Dean of Instruction from the Department of Defense IG University, briefed Roundtable members on the university's plans to develop a compendium of training opportunities for OIG auditors, investigators, evaluators, and inspectors.
- The U.S. Postal Service's IG Management Institute in Rosslyn, Virginia, is offering training on a variety of pertinent topics. Several Roundtable members reported that the institute's new 2-week training session for OIG managers is excellent. For information on the institute and its course offerings, visit www.igmi.uspsoig.gov.