

# Audit Committee News

## January 2007

### **Principal Representatives:**

John P. Higgins, Jr., IG/ED,  
Chairman  
Harold Damelin, IG/Treasury  
Phyllis Fong, IG/USDA  
Gregory Friedman, IG/DOE  
Thomas Gimble,  
Acting IG/DOD  
Gordon Heddell, IG/Labor  
Edward Kelley, IG/FHFB  
Jon Rymer, IG/FDIC

### **ECIE Representative:**

Sheldon Bernstein, IG/NEH

### **FAEC Council:**

Helen Lew, AIGA/ED

### **Highlights**

- Revising *Government Auditing Standards*
- Training Federal Auditors, Inspectors, and Evaluators
- OMB to Update Audit Guidance
- Joint PCIE/CFO Council Financial Audit Working Group

If you have any questions,  
please contact:

Kim Geier at (202) 245-7020

**Next Audit Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, January 16 at 2:00 pm, Potomac Center Plaza, 550 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room 8070

### **Revising Government Auditing Standards**

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) continues its efforts to update the *Government Auditing Standards*, which was previously revised in 2003. Based on the wide range of feedback received and some uncertainties surrounding the final American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) quality standards, GAO has revised its original issuance date. GAO will now issue the new *Government Auditing Standards* in late January.

Except for those portions on quality assurance and peer review (which will include the 2003 language as placeholders), the new standards issued in January will be final. At this time, GAO will also expose a new proposal on quality assurance and peer review standards. After considering the new comment letters, GAO will finalize these remaining sections. They anticipate printing the new *Government Auditing Standards* in late spring. GAO plans to delay the effective date until either October 1, 2007, or January 1, 2008.

### **Training Federal Auditors, Inspectors, and Evaluators**

The Audit Committee continues its efforts to identify the best means of providing Federal auditors, inspectors, and evaluators with the specialized training they need to perform effective and efficient audits and evaluations. Although the Inspector General Training Institute (IGATI) was re-established to provide training during the first quarter of 2007, the Audit Committee is diligently working to identify an established training provider with a solid infrastructure who would be willing to partner with the Federal audit community to provide a wide range of classes. The Audit Committee will bring the proposed partnership before the full PCIE and ECIE after we work out the details.

### **OMB to Update Audit Guidance**

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is convening a task force to revise OMB Bulletin No. 06-03, *Audit Requirements for Federal Financial Statements*, which it plans to issue sometime late spring or early summer. We ask that you encourage your staff to serve on the task force. Staff members that are interested in serving on the task force should contact Audrey Duchesne of OMB's Office of Federal Financial Management, at (202) 395-3072 or [aduchesne@omb.eop.gov](mailto:aduchesne@omb.eop.gov).

### **Joint PCIE/CFO Council Financial Audit Working Group**

The PCIE and the Chief Financial Officers' Council (CFOC) have established a working group, chaired by OMB, to address issues that arose during the FY 2006 financial statement audit process. The joint working group, composed primarily of Deputy Chief Financial Officers and Assistant Inspectors General for Audit, will work together to identify common problems and develop best practices. The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for the end of January.

