FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION
Office of Inspector General
Washington, DC 20573-0001

March 15, 2012

Office of Inspector General

TO: Chairman Richard A. Lidinsky, Jr.
Commissioner Joseph E. Brennan
Commissioner Rebecca F. Dye
Commissioner Michael A. Khouri
Commissioner Mario Cordero

FROM: /Adam R. Trzeciak/
Inspector General

SUBJECT: IPERA Reporting

On July 22, 2010, the President signed into law the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act (IPERA; Pub. L. 111-204). IPERA amended the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (IPIA; Publ. L. 107-300). Each agency inspector general is tasked with reviewing improper payment reporting in their agency's annual Performance and Accountability Report (PAR) to determine if the agency is in compliance with IPIA. If an agency does not administer programs and/or activities that may be susceptible to significant improper payments, the Office of Management and Budget recommends that the IG submit a short letter to the agency head, Congress, GAO and OMB stating that it did not have anything to review under IPERA. Reports or letters are due within 120 days of the PAR issuance date (i.e., March 15, 2012).

Improper payments are payments that should not have been made or that were made in an incorrect amount (including overpayments or underpayments); and includes any payment to an ineligible recipient, any payment for an ineligible good or service not received, and any payment that does not account for credit for applicable discounts.

The Federal Maritime Commission's Office of Inspector General reviewed the agency's most recent PAR (November 15, 2011) for compliance with IPIA. FMC management reported in the PAR that the agency does not administer programs or activities that may be susceptible to significant improper payments, and considers all of its payments to be low risk for improper payment. Consequently, the OIG did not review any transactions to assess IPIA compliance.