

MISSION

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducts independent and objective audits, inspections, and investigations that promote excellence, integrity and accountability in Department of Homeland Security (DHS) programs.

Congress enacted the Inspector General Act of 1978 (IG Act) to ensure integrity and efficiency in Federal Government. The Homeland Security Act of 2002, established both DHS and this OIG to provide oversight over DHS and its diverse component agencies. The DHS Inspector General is appointed by the President and subject to Senate confirmation.

OUR WORK

Our audits, inspections and investigations focus on the following DHS core missions:

1. Prevent Terrorism and Enhance Security;
2. Secure and Manage Our Borders;
3. Enforce & Administer Our Immigration Laws;
4. Safeguard and Secure Cyberspace; and
5. Ensure Resilient Response to Disasters

WHERE TO FIND OIG REPORTS

Visit our website at WWW.OIG.DHS.GOV

STAY CONNECTED



MEDIA INQUIRIES

Office of Public Affairs
dhs-oig.officepublicaffairs@oig.dhs.gov
202.254.4100

OIG HOTLINE

To report alleged fraud, waste, abuse or mismanagement involving DHS programs, visit www.oig.dhs.gov click on **Hotline** and you will be directed to complete an Online Allegation Form. Using the form ensures that your allegation will be promptly received and reviewed.

If you are unable to access our website:

CALL

TOLL FREE 1-800-323-8603
TTY 1-844-889-4357
FAX 202-254-4297

MAIL

Department of Homeland Security,
Office of Inspector General, Mail Stop 0305
Attention: Office of Investigations-HOTLINE
245 Murray Lane, SW
Washington, DC 20528-0305

OIG seeks to protect the identity of each writer and caller.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS

The OIG provides information and assistance to whistleblowers reporting fraud, waste and abuse through its **Whistleblower Protection Ombudsman** Whistleblower.Protection@oig.dhs.gov

Visit www.oig.dhs.gov click on **Whistleblower Protections** for more information.



Guide to the DHS Office of Inspector General

We are committed to working in partnership with DHS officials, employees and contractors, and the public to enhance Homeland Security and protect the taxpayers' investment in vital DHS programs. I hope this pamphlet adds to your understanding of our role and purpose and that you will join us in the effort to prevent and deter waste, fraud and abuse.

--John Roth, Inspector General

AUTHORITY

The IG Act authorizes us to have access to all agency documents and records; subpoena documents; administer oaths; have direct and prompt access to the Secretary; select, appoint, and employ OIG employees; and enter into contracts and consultant agreements. The IG also has the authority to report serious matters to The DHS Secretary, who must transmit such reports to Congress within seven calendar days, along with any comments.

ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS

Section 6 of the IG Act authorizes OIG to access and obtain all records, reports, audits, reviews, recommendations and other materials related to DHS programs and operations.

SUBPOENA AUTHORITY

Section 6 of the IG Act also authorizes OIG to issue subpoenas to obtain documents from outside the Federal Government. The Right to Financial Privacy Act authorizes OIG access to financial records.

ACCESS TO INDIVIDUALS

Federal Government employees, including DHS personnel, must participate in OIG investigations by providing information in interviews. The majority of employees voluntarily consent to interviews, and fully cooperate. Employees who do not cooperate may be ordered by a supervisor to appear for an interview with an OIG investigator. Employees who fail to comply with such an order are subject to disciplinary action.

AUDITS

Our **Office of Audits** conducts and supervises audits and special reviews of DHS programs and operations, including program and financial management, contracts and grants. We make recommendations to improve the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of DHS programs/operations, and, when necessary, to deter, identify, and address fraud, waste and abuse. We also conduct congressionally mandated audits, as well as, respond to congressional requests for audits and reviews.

Our **Office of Information Technology Audits** conducts audits and evaluations of DHS information management, cyber infrastructure and systems integration activities. We also examine the cost effectiveness of acquisitions, implementation, security and management of major systems and telecommunications. Our IT Audit staff also conducts forensic audits and data analyses in support of the work of OIG auditors, inspectors and investigators.

Our **Office of Emergency Management Oversight** conducts timely audits to ensure disaster relief funds are spent appropriately, identifying fraud, waste, and abuse as early as possible. The office fully informs Congress, the DHS Secretary, the Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator and others about problems with disaster operations, assistance programs and recommends improvements.

EVALUATION & INSPECTIONS

Through our **Office of Evaluation & Inspections** the OIG analyzes programs quickly and evaluates operational efficiency, effectiveness and vulnerability. Our work includes special reviews of sensitive issues that arise suddenly and responds to congressional requests that require immediate action. Inspections is also the lead OIG office for reporting on DHS intelligence, international affairs, civil rights and civil liberties and science and technology.

INVESTIGATIONS

Our **Office of Investigations** obtains relevant facts to address all aspects of a complaint. Our investigators interview witnesses, technical experts, the subjects of investigations and they examine documents and other records. They also have Federal law enforcement authority, including power to make arrests.

After gathering information, investigators prepare an investigative report. When there is evidence of Federal criminal wrongdoing, that information is presented to the Department of Justice to consider criminal or civil action. If the investigation shows evidence of an administrative offense, it is reported to DHS managers for action.

FISCAL YEAR 2015 RESULTS

Funds Put to Better Use	\$1,652,151,530
Questioned Costs	\$477,275,940
Reports Issued	161
Hotline Complaints Processed	17,929
Closed Investigations	578
INV Personnel Actions	37