



OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY
NEWS RELEASE

Director of National Intelligence Swears In New Inspector General of the Intelligence Community

(May 17, 2018) Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats swore in Michael K. Atkinson as Inspector General of the Intelligence Community after the Senate confirmed his nomination the prior week. As Inspector General, Mr. Atkinson oversees a workforce of special agents, auditors, inspectors, attorneys, and support staff whose mission is to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration and implementation of programs and activities within the responsibility and authority of the Director of National Intelligence and to prevent and detect fraud and abuse in such programs and activities. He also serves as the Chair of the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum, which consists of the twelve inspectors general with oversight responsibility for elements of the Intelligence Community. The Forum serves as a mechanism for informing its members of the work of individual members of the Forum that may be of common interest and discussing questions that may involve or be of assistance to more than one of its members.

Prior to his Senate confirmation, Mr. Atkinson worked for the U.S. Department of Justice for over fifteen years. He worked as a Trial Attorney in DOJ's Criminal Division, Fraud Section, from 2002 through 2006. He then served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia from 2006 through 2016, where he was the Acting Chief and Deputy Chief of the Fraud and Public Corruption Section. In 2012, he was awarded the Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service for his work on a significant public corruption case. Thereafter, he served in DOJ's National Security Division as the Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General for National Asset Protection and as Senior Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General.

His awards also include the Executive Office for United States Attorneys' Director's Award for Superior Performance by an Assistant United States Attorney, and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's Gaston L. Gianni Jr. Better Government Award for his work prosecuting the largest domestic bribery and bid steering scheme in the history of federal contracting.

Prior to his public service, Mr. Atkinson was a partner at Winston & Strawn, where he focused his practice on white collar defense, internal investigations, and complex civil litigation.

Mr. Atkinson earned his Juris Doctorate from Cornell University and his Bachelor of Arts from Syracuse University.

The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 established the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. The ICIG's mission is to provide independent and objective oversight of the programs and activities within the responsibility and authority of the Director of National Intelligence, to initiate and conduct independent audits, inspections, investigations, and reviews, and to lead and coordinate the efforts of the Intelligence

Community Inspectors General Forum. The ICIG's goal is to have a positive and enduring impact throughout the Intelligence Community, to lead and coordinate the efforts of an integrated Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum, and to enhance the ability of the United States Intelligence Community to meet national security needs while respecting our nation's laws and reflecting its values. The Forum consists of the twelve statutory and administrative Inspectors General having oversight responsibility for an element of the Intelligence Community. The Chair of the Forum is the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community.

For more information about the ICIG, please contact [IC IG PAO@dni.gov](mailto:IC_IG_PAO@dni.gov) or visit the ICIG's websites:

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