# The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community Completes Review of ODNI's Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center

**(January 2019)** The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (ICIG) recently completed a review by its Inspections and Evaluations Division of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's (ODNI's) Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center (CTIIC) (INS-2018-003). ODNI's other mission centers are the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC); the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC); and the National Counterproliferation Center (NCPC).

CTIIC was established pursuant to a Presidential Memorandum, entitled Establishment of the Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center, dated February 25, 2015. Among other directives, it required the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) to establish CTIIC for the purpose of producing coordinated Intelligence Community (IC) analysis of foreign cyber threats to U.S. national interests, ensuring that information is shared among the federal cyber community, and supporting the work of operators and policymakers with timely intelligence about significant cyber threats and threat actors.

The ICIG evaluated CTIIC's mission performance, management effectiveness, resource management, and enterprise oversight covering the review period of February 2016 through February 2018. The results of this inspection included the following "challenges" :

- The functions of CTIIC and ODNI's National Intelligence Manager for Cyber (NIM Cyber) are not fully consolidated. NIM-Cyber is the Director of National Intelligence's Intelligence Community lead for cyber intelligence issues, and is responsible for the integration of the Intelligence Community's collection and analysis on cyber issues. The ICIG identified the legal ramifications and its recommendations related to this challenge in the classified version of the ICIG's report.
- The staffing practices by CTIIC and ODNI impeded the ICIG's ability to validate adherence to position limits. The ICIG's report identified discrepancies in certain personnel records and ODNI's use of an ambiguous term to identify staffing placement as impediments to the ICIG's ability to verify CTIIC's actual staffing number and compliance with staffing limits. The ICIG identified the legal and policy ramifications as well as its recommendations related to this challenge in the classified version of the ICIG's report.

- The ratio of CTIIC's Joint Duty Assignment personnel does not align with ODNI's Strategic Human Capital Plan 2012-2017, which identified a goal of a 50:50 ratio of cadre (or permanent) to joint duty (or detailee) personnel. As of March 2018, CTIIC's ratio of cadre to joint duty personnel was 29:71. Individuals interviewed by the ICIG voiced concerns that the lack of continuity of ODNI's cadre personnel, and frequent turnover and rotation of detailees, could disrupt the execution of CTIIC's mission responsibilities. As a result, the ICIG's report recommended that CTIIC, in coordination with ODNI's Human Resources, develop and implement a plan that includes a recruitment strategy to identify potential candidates with the appropriate core competencies to complete CTIIC's mission and move toward a 50:50 civilian workforce ratio.
- The mission for CTIIC's Threat Opportunity Section (TOS) requires clarifying guidance. In order to execute its mission responsibilities, CTIIC's leadership established three sections with different responsibilities: Current Intelligence Section (CIS), Analysis Integration Section (AIS), and TOS. TOS is charged with facilitating and supporting the United States Government's responses to cyber threats by working with policy and operational stakeholders, particularly staff on the National Security Council, to identify and integrate the range of response options, along with accompanying considerations policymakers require to decide on courses of action. To accomplish these tasks, TOS has a team that develops products, such as strategic assessments of United States Government cyber plans and policies, cyber response options matrices, courses of actions, and other materials to support the needs of the National Security Council staff. The ICIG, however, found that TOS had performed no strategic assessments for the National Security Council staff during the review period, and there was overall a low demand and limited interest for TOS products by the staff. As a result, the ICIG recommended, among other things, that CTIIC develop and implement a comprehensive plan to maximize TOS's mission effectiveness, including the ability to measure product deliverables to the National Security Council staff or interagency stakeholders.

The ICIG's report also commended CTIIC for its Cyber Threat Intelligence Summary, which provides threat reporting, including context, commentary, and Intelligence Community/United States Government actions, and highlights intelligence and finished community analysis from around the Intelligence Community.

The ICIG's Inspections and Evaluations Division works to improve ODNI and IC-wide performance and integration by examining the following: information access; collaboration, collection, and analysis; Intelligence Community programs and issues; and compliance with laws and regulations.

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.

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