## OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY



## **Annual Work Plan**

## Fiscal Year 2023

Thomas A. Monheim

Inspector General of the Intelligence Community

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### **INSPECTOR GENERAL FOREWORD**

On behalf of the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG), I am pleased to share the IC IG's *Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan*. This plan includes statutory and discretionary projects and activities that are underway or planned for the next fiscal year. These projects and activities should help the IC IG accomplish our vital mission to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration and implementation of the programs and activities within the Director of National Intelligence's (DNI's) responsibility and authority, and to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in those programs and activities.

The IC IG considered various sources in developing the *Fiscal Year 2023 Work Plan*, including *2019 National Intelligence Strategy* and *ODNI Strategy 2019–2023*, input from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) leadership and workforce, previous management challenges and IC IG work, discussions with Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum Offices of Inspector General, and items of congressional and U.S. Government Accountability Office interest.

Although the annual work plan provides a framework for activities we currently intend to carry out in fiscal year 2023, our actual work may vary depending on changing circumstances and priorities, available resources, emerging issues, additional ODNI and congressional requests, and new requirements in the Intelligence Authorization Act, National Defense Authorization Act, or other law.

In addition to the projects articulated in this annual work plan, the IC IG continues conducting and participating in independent and objective criminal and administrative investigations of programs and activities within the responsibility and authority of the DNI. Due to the unpredictable and sensitive nature of investigative activities, this plan does not include our investigative work.

Thanks to all those who contributed to our planning process and to the IC IG team for its resilience and ongoing efforts to strengthen the Intelligence Community in service to the Nation.

Thomas A. Monheim Inspector General of the Intelligence Community

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### **INTRODUCTION**

## AUTHORITY

The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (IAA), codified at Title 50, United States Code, Section 3033, established the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). The IC IG has the statutory authority to independently conduct and issue reports on audits, inspections, investigations, and reviews of programs or activities within the Director of National Intelligence's (DNI's) responsibility and authority. The IC IG is authorized to receive and investigate complaints or information from whistleblowers, and to conduct independent reviews of Intelligence Community (IC) matters and whistleblower reprisal claims.

The IAA also established the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum (the Forum). The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community serves as the Chair, and Forum members consist of the statutory and administrative Inspectors General with oversight responsibility for an IC element. The Forum provides a venue for coordination and collaboration regarding matters of common interest, questions of jurisdiction, and access to personnel and information that may affect more than one Office of the Inspector General.

### STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community is appointed by the President of the United States, with the advice and consent of the United States Senate. By statute, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community must be nominated based on integrity, experience, and demonstrated ability, and without regard to political affiliation. Likewise, the IC IG must perform its duties with independence, objectivity, and impartiality. Accordingly, the IC IG's findings and conclusions are not influenced by bias or external interference; they are based on the facts and applicable law and in accordance with applicable standards for Offices of Inspectors General.

### **MISSION**

The IC IG's mission is to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness and to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in the programs and activities within the DNI's responsibility and authority.

### VISION

A premier workforce that exemplifies core values and strengthens the Intelligence Community.

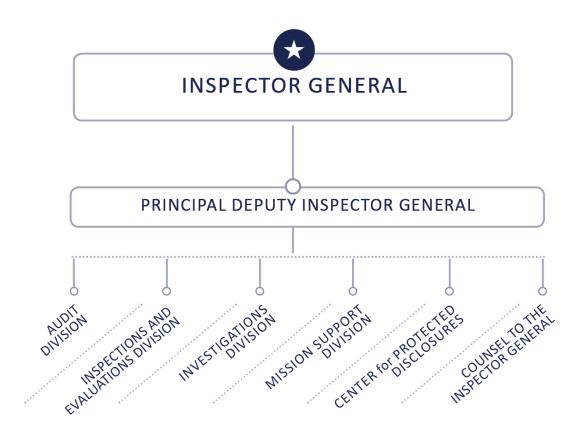
## **IC IG CORE VALUES**

# INTEGRITY INDEPENDENCE TRANSPARENCY ACCOUNTABILITY DIVERSITY

## ORGANIZATION

The IC IG employs a highly skilled, committed, and diverse workforce, including permanent employees (cadre), employees from other IC elements on detail to the IC IG (detailees), and contractors.

The IC IG's leadership team comprises the Inspector General, Principal Deputy Inspector General, Counsel to the Inspector General, four Assistant Inspectors General, and the Director of the Center for Protected Disclosures.





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## FISCAL YEAR 2023 PLANNED PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

## I. AUDIT

### **REQUIRED PROJECTS**

## Fiscal Year 2022 Risk Assessment of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Government Charge Card Program

The Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 requires Inspectors General to conduct periodic risk assessments of agency charge card programs to analyze the risk of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases. The assessment will examine ODNI's Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Charge Card Program to identify and assess the risk of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments.

#### Fiscal Year 2023 Independent Evaluation of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Information Security Program and Practices Required by the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014

The Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA) prescribes an annual process of self-assessment and independent evaluation of an agency's information security program and practices. The objective of this evaluation is to assess the effectiveness and maturity of ODNI's information security program and practices during FY 2023, using the FY 2023 Inspector General FISMA Reporting Metrics.

## Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Statement Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence

Title 31, U.S.C. § 3515, as amended by the Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002, requires the ODNI to prepare and submit annual audited financial statements to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by November 15 of each year. The financial statement audit ensures the integrity and reliability of the ODNI's financial management and reporting systems. The audit objective is to evaluate the reliability of the data supporting the financial statements, determine the accuracy of the statements produced, and examine the adequacy of footnote disclosures in accordance with guidance issued by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board, OMB, and other authoritative guidance. The audit will also assess internal controls and compliance with laws and regulations related to the objectives and will follow up on the status of findings from the prior year.

# Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act, Section 107(b), Oversight of Government Activities for Calendar Years 2021 and 2022

This audit will be conducted in support of, and the results will be included in, the joint review report required by the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015. The audit will evaluate ODNI's assessment of the sufficiency of policies and procedures related to sharing cyber threat indicators within the federal government; classification of cyber threat indicators or defensive measures; accounting of the security clearances for sharing with the private sector; actions taken based on cyber threat indicators or defensive measures with appropriate entities; and identification of barriers to sharing information.

## Joint Project on the Implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act, Section 107(b), Oversight of Government Activities for Calendar Years 2021 and 2022

The IC IG will report to Congress on the consolidated results of the audits or evaluations conducted by the IC IG and the Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce, Defense, Energy, Homeland Security, Justice, and Treasury of their respective agencies' implementation of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act, Section 107(b) for calendar years 2021 and 2022.

#### Review of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Office of Inspector General

The IC IG will review the Defense Intelligence Agency, Office of Inspector General's level of independence and effectiveness.

#### **Peer Reviews**

Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS) require audit organizations that conduct projects following GAGAS to obtain an external peer review conducted by reviewers independent of the audit organization being reviewed. The peer review provides a basis to determine the design suitability of the reviewed audit organization's system of quality control and compliance with its quality control system. This provides reasonable assurance that the organization conforms to professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements in all material respects.

The IC IG and the Offices of Inspectors General (OIGs) at Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), and National Security Agency (NSA) peer review one another's audit divisions once every three fiscal years on a pre-determined schedule. As Chair of the IC Audit Committee, the IC IG Assistant Inspector General for Audit develops the external peer review schedule in coordination with the IC OIGs referenced above. The IC IG Audit Division was peer reviewed in FY 2020 and received a pass rating. The Audit Division is scheduled to be peer reviewed again in FY 2023. The IC IG will conduct an external peer review of the CIA OIG Audit Division's system of quality control during the second quarter FY 2023. IC IG Audit Division is not supporting any external peer reviews by another IC OIG in FY 2023.

## **DISCRETIONARY PROJECTS**

Resources and circumstances permitting, the Audit Division plans to conduct one discretionary project:

#### Audit of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Oversight of Service Agreements

The IC IG will conduct an audit of the service agreements between ODNI and other IC elements to determine whether ODNI is performing the oversight necessary to ensure it receives the services for which it paid.

## **II. INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS**

### **REQUIRED PROJECTS**

#### **Classification Review of ODNI, Fiscal Year 2022**

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 requires the IC IG to assess ODNI's security classification and declassification processes. In accordance with the Act, the IC IG will evaluate ODNI's accuracy in applying classification and handling markers in finished reports; compliance with declassification procedures; and effectiveness in identifying topics of public or historical importance that should be prioritized for declassification review. Starting in FY 2021, the IC IG will complete this evaluation once each year for three consecutive years.

#### **Review of ODNI's Enhanced Personnel Security Program**

Title 5 U.S.C. § 11001 requires the DNI to "direct each agency to implement a program to provide enhanced security review of covered individuals" no later than the earlier of five years from the date of enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 or when the backlog of overdue periodic reinvestigations of covered individuals is eliminated. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 11001(d), the IC IG will assess the effectiveness of the continuous evaluation program for ODNI employees based on the metrics and guidelines as published by the DNI.

#### Review of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019

The Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA), which repealed The Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act, sets forth reporting requirements for improper payments. In March 2021, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) modified Appendix C to OMB Circular A-123 to transform the payment integrity compliance framework and focus agencies on researching the underlying causes of improper payments, balancing payment integrity risks and controls, and building the capacity to help prevent future improper payments.

Each fiscal year, federal agencies are responsible for meeting the requirements of PIIA. Inspectors General are required to evaluate their agency and publish a report on whether their agency complied with PIIA. This review will evaluate ODNI's compliance with disclosures on improper payments as reported in the *Office of the Director of National Intelligence FY 2022 Agency Financial Report*. The IC IG may modify the scope pending further guidance from OMB.

#### Assessment of All-Source Cyber Intelligence Information

Pursuant to Section 831 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, see Pub. L. No. 117-103, the IC IG, in coordination with the Offices of Inspectors General at the National Security Agency and Central Intelligence Agency, is required to submit a report to the Congressional intelligence committees on the effectiveness of the IC with respect to the integration and dissemination of all-source intelligence relating to foreign cyber threats.

#### **Peer Reviews**

The *Guide for Conducting External Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General* provides assurance to OIGs and their stakeholders of the Inspections and Evaluations organization's compliance with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation (Blue Book) standards. An OIG's inspections and evaluations organization is externally peer reviewed every three years to assess whether reports complied with the Blue Book standards and the organization's associated internal policies and procedures. External peer reviews provide a level of objectivity and independence in making this determination.

The IC IG received a peer review of its organizational work performed in accordance with the Blue Book standards in the fourth quarter of FY 2021. The reviewing OIG determined that the IC IG's policies and procedures were generally consistent with the seven Blue Book standards addressed in the external peer review. The reviewing OIG noted no significant non-compliances and the report did not provide recommendations.

In FY 2022, the IC IG Inspections and Evaluations (I&E) Division supported OIG peer reviews of organizational work performed in accordance with the Blue Book standards for CIA, NGA, and DIA. In addition, the IC IG I&E Division will lead the external peer review of NSA OIG's

Inspections Division in FY 2023 and will support the external peer review of NRO OIG in FY 2023.

As Chair of the IC IG's Inspections Committee, the IC IG Assistant Inspector General for Inspections and Evaluations will continue to serve as the peer review coordinator for the IC OIGs' inspection and evaluations programs and provide updates to the CIGIE Inspections and Evaluations Committee as needed.

## **DISCRETIONARY PROJECTS<sup>1</sup>**

Resources and circumstances permitting, the I&E Division plans to conduct one or more of the following projects:

## Assessment of the Intelligence Community's Compliance with Analytic Tradecraft Standards

The IC IG will evaluate the IC's effectiveness in ensuring compliance with analytic tradecraft standards. IC IG will also determine the extent to which existing oversight structures are effective in safeguarding IC analytic products.

#### Review of the Intelligence Community's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Initiatives

This review will assist the IC in evaluating diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility initiatives across the IC as an integrated entity and further leverage the benefits of diversity and inclusion initiatives across the IC.

#### **Evaluation of Intelligence Community Services of Common Concern**

The IC landscape has changed significantly since the DNI's review in 2010 of its mission and functions. In 2020, the ODNI realigned its organizational structure as part of its continuing efforts to reassess its core mission while looking to improve and streamline support for the IC. The DNI, and the IC at-large, could benefit from a comprehensive review of the executive agents to assess whether the model for accomplishing services in a consolidated manner by an IC element aligns with the future needs of the IC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The list of discretionary projects is not necessarily in order of priority nor intended sequence.

## Joint Evaluation of the Relationship between the National Security Agency and the United States Cyber Command

IC IG will lead an evaluation with the Department of Defense, Office of Inspector General and National Security Agency, Office of the Inspector General, to conduct a joint, in-depth, comprehensive review of the relationship between the National Security Agency and United States Cyber Command.

## **III. INVESTIGATIONS**

## **REQUIRED PROJECTS**

#### **Peer Reviews**

CIGIE established a Qualitative Assessment Review program for Investigative Operations of Federal Offices of Inspector General to ensure that CIGIE Quality Standards for Investigations and Digital Forensics are followed and that law enforcement powers are properly exercised.

In March and June 2021, IC IG's Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, as the Chair of the Forum's Investigations Committee, and in collaboration with Committee members, implemented a "team approach" concept for conducting external quality assurance (peer) reviews. These reviews are performed consistent with CIGIE Quality Standards for Investigations. This approach allows for an investigator from each IC OIG to participate in the scheduled reviews. A senior investigator leads each review. Less experienced investigators are also given the opportunity to participate, which advances professional growth and development.

IC IG supported its first peer review in March 2022. The review was led by NSA OIG and evaluated NRO OIG's investigations program. IC IG will also continue to support the NRO OIG-led review of DIA OIG's investigations program, which started in FY 2022 and will continue into FY 2023. The IC IG investigations program is scheduled to be reviewed in FY 2024.

The Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, as the Forum's Investigations Committee Chair, serves as the peer review coordinator for reviews of IC OIG investigations programs. The Assistant Inspector General for Investigations also provides updates to the CIGIE Investigations Committee as needed or required.

### IV. COUNSEL

## **REQUIRED PROJECTS FOR THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY INSPECTORS GENERAL FORUM**

#### Oversight by the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community over Intelligence Community Whistleblower Matters

The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 requires the IC IG, in consultation with the Forum, to establish a system and develop related policies whereby the IC IG is notified in near real time of (1) the submission of complaints by whistleblowers to IGs of the elements of the IC relating to the programs and activities under the jurisdiction of the DNI, and information related to such complaints; and (2) actions taken by an IG of an IC element related to such actions.

#### **Role of Inspectors General in Investigating Unauthorized Disclosures**

The Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 directs the IC IG to submit a report regarding the role of IGs in the investigation of unauthorized disclosures within the IC. The requirement directs the IC IG to address (1) the roles of IC elements' security personnel and law enforcement regarding unauthorized disclosures; (2) the current role of IGs within the IC elements regarding such disclosures; (3) what, if any, specific actions could be taken by such IGs to increase their involvement in the investigation of such matters; (4) any laws, rules or procedures that currently prevent IGs from increasing their involvement; and (5) the benefits and drawbacks of increased IG involvement, to include potential impacts to the IG's roles and missions.

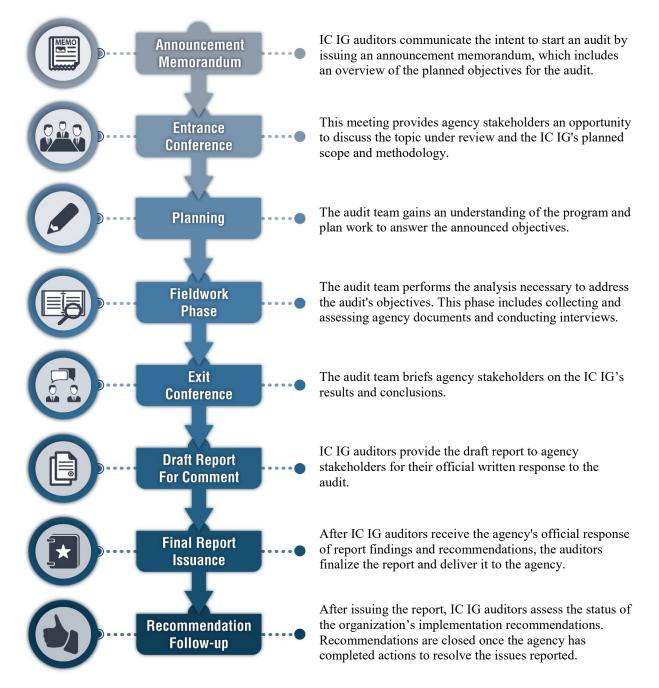
## **REQUIRED PROJECTS DIRECTING THE IC IG TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE DNI**

#### **Report on Protections for Confidentiality of Whistleblower-related Communications**

The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 requires the Security Executive Agent (SecEA), in coordination with the IC IG, submit a report detailing the controls employed by the IC to ensure that continuous vetting programs, including user activity monitoring, protect the confidentiality of whistleblower-related communications. Pursuant to the statute, the IC IG will support, as appropriate, the SecEA's efforts in furtherance of this review.

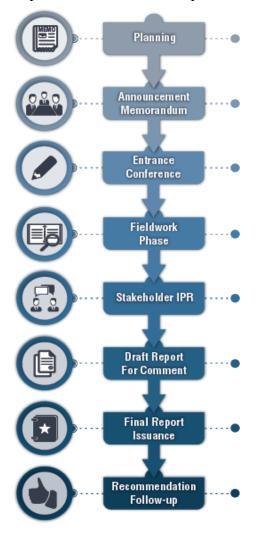
## **APPENDIX A: THE AUDIT PROCESS**

The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community's (IC IG's) Audit Division assesses whether the goals and objectives of the ODNI and IC element programs are achieved; resources are used efficiently, and the programs and activities are conducted in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and good business practices. Audits and projects may be financial or performance in nature. The audit process consists of the following stages:



# **APPENDIX B: THE INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS PROCESS**

The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community's (IC IG's) Inspections and Evaluations (I&E) Division's mission is to conduct inspections, evaluations, and reviews of the programs and activities within the Director of National Intelligence's responsibility and authority. The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Quality Standards for Inspections and Evaluations gives the I&E Division the flexibility to develop tailored approaches for conducting systematic and independent inspections and evaluations of Office of the Director of National Intelligence components and Intelligence Community elements. Using a multidisciplinary staff and various methods for gathering and analyzing data, inspections and evaluations typically analyze information; measure performance; determine compliance with applicable law, regulation, and/or policy; identify potential savings; share best practices or promising approaches; and assess allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement. The inspections and evaluations process consists of the following stages:



The inspection team develops an understanding of the program or topic and plans work to answer the inspection objectives.

IC IG inspectors communicate the intent to begin an inspection by issuing an announcement memorandum, which typically includes an overview of the topic and inspection focus.

This meeting provides agency stakeholders an opportunity to discuss the topic under review and the IC IG's planned scope and methodology.

IC IG inspectors work toward achieving the inspection objectives. This phase typically includes collecting and assessing agency documents and conducting interviews.

This meeting provides senior agency stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the inspection team's initial conclusions, emerging trends and recommendations.

IC IG inspectors provide the draft report to agency stakeholders for their official written response to the inspection.

After IC IG inspectors receive the agency's official response, they finalize the report and deliver it to the agency.

After issuing the final report, IC IG inspectors work with designated points of contact to assess the status of the organization's implementation of recommendations. If actions taken resolve the issues reported, the recommendation(s) are closed.

## **APPENDIX C: THE INVESTIGATIONS PROCESS**

The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community's (IC IG's) Investigations Division conducts or participates in independent and objective criminal and administrative investigations pertaining to programs and activities within the Director of National Intelligence's responsibility and authority. Consistent with the IC IG's unique statutory authority, the Investigations Division coordinates cross-Intelligence Community (IC) criminal and administrative investigations. The Investigations Division fulfills the IC IG's statutory obligations by conducting investigations that detect and deter fraud and abuse in such programs and activities. In addition, investigations can provide senior managers with actionable information on critical issues that aid their decision making.

Although investigations may be proactive, based on planned initiatives using data analytics, many investigations are reactive and initiated in response to information and allegations the Investigations Division receives. Due to the combination of unpredictability and the need to protect sources and methods of proactive investigations, the Investigations Division does not identify its planned investigations in the *Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan*. However, because investigations often result from a deliberate subversion of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's (ODNI's) procedures or controls, the details obtained from investigations may result in referrals to other IC IG Divisions and become integral to planning audits, inspections, and special projects.

The Investigations Division receives information about potential violations through various sources, including the IC IG's Hotline; in-person meetings; telephone calls; emails; referrals from Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum (the Forum) members; and law enforcement agencies. Examples of the types of violations the Investigations Division handles include, but are not limited to:

- conflicts of interest;
- bribes and kickbacks;
- unauthorized disclosures;
- procurement fraud;
- cost mischarging;
- false official statements;
- abuse of authority by government officials;
- reprisal and retaliation;
- misuse of government resources; and
- senior official misconduct.

The IC IG uses its independent investigative authority to gather and analyze facts associated with the information it receives to determine if potential violations have occurred and the extent or severity of those potential violations. Cases in which violations are determined to be relatively minor are often referred to ODNI management for administrative action. The Investigations

Division also refers complaints involving other agencies to the appropriate Inspector General office for further handling, if warranted. However, cases where violations are determined to be more serious (e.g., involving allegations of significant loss or serious violations of law) are further investigated for possible criminal prosecution and/or civil litigation. When the IC IG's Investigations Division substantiates the allegations, one or more of the following actions, depending on the type and severity of the violation, may occur:

- criminal and/or military prosecution;
- payment of restitution and/or civil settlement;
- removal of personnel;
- management referral;
- contract value adjustment; and
- contract administrative action.

The Investigations Division engages in extensive outreach to help ensure that ODNI personnel are fully aware of current and emerging issues as well as their obligation to report potential violations. For example, it regularly briefs new employees to raise employee awareness. The Investigations Division also provides alerts on schemes and incidents that adversely affect the ODNI and IC programs. The Division regularly liaises with Forum members and law enforcement agencies to share information, generate potential investigative leads, and cultivate sources.

## APPENDIX D: THE CENTER FOR PROTECTED DISCLOSURES

Whistleblowing is the lawful disclosure to an authorized recipient of information a person reasonably believes evidences wrongdoing. It is the mechanism to relay the right information to the right people to counter wrongdoing and promote the proper, effective, and efficient performance of the Intelligence Community's (IC's) mission. Whistleblowing in the IC is extremely important as it ensures that personnel can "say something" when they "see something" through formal reporting procedures without harming national security and without retaliation.

The Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community's (IC IG's) Center for Protected Disclosures (the Center) processes disclosures and complaints reported by whistleblowers and provides guidance to individuals about the options and protections afforded to individuals who may wish to make protected disclosures to the IC IG and/or Congress, or who believe they suffered reprisal because they made a protected disclosure.

The Center performs four critical functions for whistleblowers in the IC.

First, the Center, through the IC IG Hotline program, receives and processes whistleblower complaints of fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement of programs and activities within the responsibility of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI). There are six ways complainants can report their concerns to the IC IG Hotline: (1) public and secure telephone numbers; (2) public and secure websites; (3) walk-in meetings at the IC IG's offices; (4) U.S. Postal Service mail; (5) fax; and (6) drop boxes located in Office of the Director of National Intelligence facilities.

Second, the Center, through the IC IG Hotline program, receives and processes allegations of "urgent concerns" pursuant to the Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act (ICWPA), 50 U.S.C. § 3033(k)(5). The ICWPA established a process to ensure that the DNI and congressional intelligence committees receive disclosures regarding certain types of wrongdoing, including serious or flagrant problems, abuses, violations of law or executive order, or deficiencies relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity.

In order to submit an "urgent concern" to the IC IG, the law requires that a submitter be "[a]n employee of an element of the intelligence community, an employee assigned or detailed to an element of the intelligence community, or an employee of a contractor to the intelligence community." The ICWPA also requires that a submitter provide a complaint or information with respect to an "urgent concern," which is defined as one of the following:

A serious or flagrant problem, abuse, violation of the law or Executive order, or deficiency relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity within the responsibility and authority of the Director of National Intelligence involving classified information, but does not include differences of opinions concerning public policy matters.

A false statement to Congress, or a willful withholding from Congress, on an issue of material fact relating to the funding, administration, or operation of

an intelligence activity.

An action, including a personnel action described in section 2302(a)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code, constituting reprisal or threat of reprisal prohibited under subsection (g)(3)(B) of this section in response to an employee's reporting an urgent concern in accordance with this paragraph.

If the IC IG determines that the complaint falls within the definition of the ICWPA, then the IC IG must, within 14 calendar days, determine whether the "urgent concern" allegation "appear[s] credible." The Center tracks all ICWPA disclosures, ensures review of materials for classified information, and coordinates disclosures with other Offices of Inspectors General (OIGs) for appropriate review and disposition.

Third, the Center adjudicates requests by IC employees and contractors for the IC IG to review their allegations of reprisal under Presidential Policy Directive 19, *Protecting Whistleblowers with Access to Classified Information*, and 50 U.S.C. §§ 3234, 3236, and 3341(j). These authorities prohibit acts of reprisal against employees and contractors serving in the IC, as well as those who are eligible for access to classified information, who make protected disclosures.

The Center also reviews other IC OIGs' determinations regarding whistleblower reprisal allegations and non-IC OIGs' determinations regarding security clearances alleged to be in reprisal for making a protected disclosure. A whistleblower who has exhausted his or her home agency's whistleblower protection processes may request an External Review Panel (ERP). Under appropriate circumstances, the IC IG may convene an ERP and review the matter.

Fourth, the Center conducts outreach across the community. The Center provides guidance to personnel seeking more information about the options and protections afforded to individuals who may wish to make a protected disclosure to the IC IG and/or Congress, or who believe they have suffered reprisal because they made a protected disclosure. The IC IG conducts community outreach and training activities to ensure stakeholders have accurate and consistent whistleblowing information relating to these and other matters.

For additional information about the whistleblower process, please visit our website at <u>www.dni.gov/ICIG</u> or contact the IC IG Hotline at 855-731-3260.

## **APPENDIX E: OFFICE OF THE COUNSEL TO THE IC IG**

The Counsel's office ensures that the Inspector General, or the person acting in that capacity, and the other members of the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) team receive independent, confidential legal advice and policy counsel.

The Counsel team provides legal support and guidance designed to meet the unique needs of each IC IG component. For example, to support the activities of the Audit Division and the Inspections and Evaluations Division, the Counsel team identifies and interprets key policy, contract, and legal provisions relevant to reported observations, findings, and recommendations. In support of the Investigations Division, the Counsel team, among other things, highlights and provides advice on potential legal issues that may require additional or redirected investigative efforts throughout the investigative process. In support of the IC IG's whistleblower program, the Counsel team assists the Center in developing policies and procedures, evaluating whistleblower disclosures, and providing legal advice for External Review Panels. The Counsel team also provides enterprise legal and policy guidance, and reviews matters related to IC IG personnel, administration, training, ethics, independence, and budgetary functions. Attorneys from the Counsel's office also participate in the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum (the Forum), the Forum's Counsels Committee, and working groups of the Five Eyes Intelligence Oversight and Review Council.

## **APPENDIX F: INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY INSPECTORS GENERAL FORUM**

One of the most significant ways the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) works to improve integration of the IC is through the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum (the Forum). By statute, the Forum includes the 12 statutory or administrative Inspectors General with oversight responsibility for an element of the IC. The IC IG is the Chair of the Forum.

Through the Forum, members can learn about the work of individual members that may be of common interest and discuss matters related to jurisdiction or access to information and staff. As Chair, the IC IG leads the Forum by coordinating efforts to find joint solutions to mutual challenges for improved integration among the Forum members. Forum committees, topic-specific working groups, and subject-matter experts generate ideas to address shared concerns and mutual challenges for consideration and decision by the Inspectors General.



## **APPENDIX G: ACRONYM LIST**

The Center	Center for Protected Disclosures
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
CIGIE	Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
DIA	Defense Intelligence Agency
DNI	Director of National Intelligence
ERP	External Review Panel
FISMA	Federal Information Security Modernization Act
The Forum	Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum
FY	Fiscal Year
GAGAS	Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards
I&E	Inspections and Evaluations
IAA	Intelligence Authorization Act
IC	Intelligence Community
IC IG	Inspector General of the Intelligence Community
ICWPA	Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act
NGA	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
NRO	National Reconnaissance Office
NSA	National Security Agency
ODNI	Office of the Director of National Intelligence
OIG	Office of Inspector General
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PIIA	Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019
SecEA	Security Executive Agent
U.S.C.	United States Code

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