

GENERAL RECORDS SCHEDULE 22

Inspector General Records

Prior to issuance of the 1998 edition, the General Records Schedules included in GRS 22 coverage of investigative and audit case files maintained in the Offices of Inspector General (OIG) of civilian agencies other than the Central Intelligence Agency. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) first issued a general records schedule for OIG records in 1986. Over a period of ten years, NARA (on a case by case basis) granted a number of agencies authority to deviate from the provisions of GRS 22, which in many instances involved scheduling some or all of the records in a series as permanent.

A study of the disposition of OIG records in Federal agencies conducted by NARA demonstrated that GRS 22 does not provide effective disposition authority for most agencies' OIG audit and investigation case files. The many exceptions, exclusions, and deviations approved for agency use demonstrate that for practical purposes the GRS standards no longer had Government-wide application. Also, in some agencies the OIG has assumed additional specialized responsibilities (e.g., the conduct of external audits) which were not reflected in GRS 22. As a result of the study, NARA determined that the disposition of OIG records should not be governed by a General Records Schedule. This approach will ensure that all agency OIG records are properly appraised by NARA.

GRS 22 is therefore WITHDRAWN.