
CHAPTER 14. INSPECTOR GENERAL

- 14-1. INSPECTOR GENERAL. The Inspector General, as provided for by the Inspector General Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-452), heads an independent and objective organization responsible for audit, investigation, fraud control, and designated security services relating to programs and operations of the Department. The Inspector General provides leadership and coordination and recommends policies for activities designed to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of programs and operations, as well as to prevent and detect fraud and abuse in such programs and operations. The Inspector General advises the Secretary on these matters and keeps the Secretary and Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of the Department's programs and operations and the necessity for and progress of corrective action. The Inspector General is responsible for:
- a. Providing or recommending policy direction for conducting, supervising, and coordinating audits and investigations relating to the Department's programs, operations, and personnel; for other activities carried out or financed by the Department; and for relationships between the Department and other Federal agencies, state and local government agencies, and non-governmental entities with respect to: all matters relating to the promotion of economy and efficiency in the administration of, or the prevention and detection of fraud and abuse in programs and operations administered or financed by the Department, or identification to bring about the prosecution of participants in such fraudulent abuse.
 - b. Reviewing existing and proposed legislation and regulations relating to programs and operations of the Department and making recommendations to the Secretary and the Congress concerning the impact on the programs and operations administered or financed by the Department.

- c. Keeping the Secretary and the Congress informed concerning fraud and other serious problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations administered or financed by the Department, recommending corrective action, and reporting on the progress made in implementing such corrective action.
- d. Reporting to the Attorney General whenever there are reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of Federal criminal law.
- e. Receiving and investigating complaints or information from employees of the Department and others concerning the possible existence of an activity constituting a violation of laws, rules, or regulations; mismanagement; gross waste of funds; abuse of authority; or substantial and specific danger to the public health and safety.
- f. Obtaining all information, documents, reports, records, accounts, papers, and other data and documentation necessary in the performance of functions assigned by the Inspector General Act of 1978.
- g. Implementing and maintaining protective security measures for the Secretary and Under Secretary.
- h. Serving as Departmental liaison with the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) and contact point for all matters relating to GAO activities.
- i. Serving as Departmental liaison with the Department of Justice (DOJ) on all criminal matters involving the Department's programs.
- j. Chairing the Committee on Fraud, Waste, and Mismanagement, which advises the Secretary on policy matters associated with minimizing occurrences of fraud, waste, and mismanagement in HUD programs and activities.
- k. Providing functional supervision over the following offices in Headquarters:

Office of Investigation
Office of Fraud Control and Management Operations

- 14-2. OFFICE OF AUDIT. This office develops an annual program for audits. It plans, conducts, supervises, and coordinates audits relating to the programs and operations of the Department, ensuring that these audits are carried out in accordance with standards established by the Comptroller General of the United States. The office recommends corrective action concerning problems, abuses, and deficiencies and reports on the progress made. It reviews existing and proposed legislation and regulations relating to programs and operations and provides recommendations as to the impact on the programs and operations administered or financed by the Department or on the prevention and detection of fraud and abuse in such programs and operations. The office recommends policies for and conducts, supervises, or coordinates activities of the Department for the purpose of promoting economy and efficiency in the administration of, or preventing and detecting fraud and abuse in programs and operations. It establishes guidelines for the use of non-Federal auditors, and maintains a system for the follow-up of audit recommendations and for reporting the results to the OIG and Departmental management. It serves as the Department's representative to the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum. It directs the operations of the Regional Inspectors General for Audit.
- 14-3. OFFICE OF INVESTIGATION. This office directs investigation and security operations nationwide. The office develops and recommends new or revised investigation programs and provides technical advice on and keeps the Inspector General and other officials informed of the results on ongoing investigation activities. It coordinates and/or works with other investigative agencies and controls the use and dissemination of reports, files, and information developed by the Office of Investigation, as well as similar information developed and furnished by other investigative agencies. It analyzes investigation operations and develops, recommends, and/or institutes

new or revised policies, procedures, or guidelines governing the conduct of investigations. The office develops and implements procedures to aid officials in

the use of information developed through investigation operations and provides a tracking system to alert management to investigation matters in need of attention. It reviews existing and proposed legislation and regulations relating to programs and operations and provides recommendations as to the impact on the programs and operations administered or financed by the Department or on the prevention and detection of fraud and abuse in such programs and operations. It serves as the Departmental liaison with the Department of Justice on all criminal matters and directs to that Department information of alleged or potential criminal violations by persons or companies employed by or benefiting from the programs of the Department. The office authorizes or recommends the release or denial of investigation information in response to requests filed in accordance with the Freedom of Information or Privacy Acts. It develops, prepares, disseminates, and administers personnel and information security policies, standards, and procedures; and requests, monitors, and adjudicates the results of all personnel security investigations. It conducts preappointment inquiries; coordinates, approves, and monitors Departmentwide position sensitivity, including ADP-computer positions. The office develops and implements policy and procedures for the administration of the Protective Security Measures Program, and develops and implements policy and procedures for the accomplishment of special projects. It directs the operations of the Regional Inspectors General for Investigation.

- 14-4. OFFICE OF FRAUD CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS. This office manages the Department's antifraud effort and develops and recommends long-range strategies and goals to minimize the opportunities for the occurrence of fraud and waste in Departmental programs and operations. The office develops innovative techniques and systems for the detection of fraud, and coordinates the Departmental committee dealing with fraud detection and prevention activities. It reviews current and proposed legislation and regulations

relating to Departmental programs and operations, and makes recommendations as to potential impact on programs and operations of the Department or the prevention and detection of fraud and abuse. It

identifies and evaluates significant findings, trends, and patterns, and recommends changes in OIG policies, procedures, and practices. It reviews and analyzes Departmental programs, activities, or functions to identify those areas sensitive to fraud and abuse and develops and maintains a fraud awareness program for HUD staff and external parties. It coordinates the preparation of the OIG Semiannual Report to Congress, serves as the Inspector General's principal representative for coordinating and participating in the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency, provides technical assistance and advice concerning the implementation of OMB Circular A-123, "Internal Control Systems," and compliance with Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act of 1982. The office maintains a "hotline" for the receipt, screening, and disposition of complaints concerning the possible existence of activity constituting violation of laws, rules, or regulations; mismanagement; gross waste of funds; or fraud. The office also coordinates and/or provides a wide range of administrative support services to offices of the OIG.