



**U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20416**

August 29, 2018

The Honorable Calvin L. Scovel III
Inspector General
Department of Transportation
Office of Inspector General
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Scovel:

We have reviewed the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative operations of the Department of Transportation Office of Inspector General (DOT OIG) in effect for the period between April 1, 2015, and April 1, 2018 (fiscal years 2015–2018). We conducted our review in accordance with the Quality Standards for Investigations and the Qualitative Assessment Review Guidelines established by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE).

We reviewed compliance with the DOT OIG system of internal policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. The review was conducted at the headquarters office in Washington, DC, and at the satellite locations in Ft. Worth, TX, and Chicago, IL. Additionally, we sampled 30 case files for investigations closed from April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018.

In performing our review, we also gave consideration to the Attorney General's Guidelines for Office of Inspectors General with Statutory Law Enforcement Authority and Section 6(e) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended. Those documents authorize law enforcement powers for eligible personnel of each of the various Offices of Inspectors General. Law enforcement powers may be exercised only for activities authorized by the IG Act, other statutes, or as expressly authorized by the Attorney General.

In our opinion, the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for investigative operations of DOT OIG for the reviewed timeframe is in compliance with the quality standards established by CIGIE and the other applicable guidelines and statutes cited above. These safeguards and procedures provide reasonable assurance of conforming with professional standards in the planning, execution, and reporting of its investigations and in the use of law enforcement powers.

Please thank your staff for their professionalism and cooperation during the review.
If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 205-7100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hannibal Ware', with a large, stylized initial 'H'.

Hannibal "Mike" Ware
Inspector General

Attachments

Table 1: Satellite Locations Included in Assessment

Location	Number of Personnel Interviewed
Washington, DC (HQ)	3
Fort Worth, TX, JRI-6	7
Chicago, IL, JRI-5	10

Table 2: Closed Investigative Files Reviewed

Case File Number	Case Closing Date
I13A0030100	04/18/2017
I15A0180401	07/05/2017
I16A0080902	06/01/2017
I16A0220400	08/16/2017
I17A0010500	02/06/2018
I17A0050300	02/21/2018
I15E013SINV	10/06/2017
I16E004SINV	09/18/2017
I16E0070600	07/10/2017
I16E0190300	05/04/2017
I14G0010401	08/16/2017
I15G0010100	01/18/2018
I15G0070202	07/11/2017
I15G0150600	06/29/2017
I16G0050500	05/02/2017
I17G0020400	06/05/2017
I12G0050500	05/15/2017
I12G0200500	03/20/2018
I13M0020500	06/08/2017
I14H0070902	06/15/2017
I15H0040400	01/08/2018
I11H0010600	06/27/2017
I14M0110903	03/22/2018
I16M0020902	09/11/2017
I16M0030400	11/14/2017
I12M0010900	07/21/2017
I16P0070300	10/13/2017
I16T0010200	03/08/2018
I07M000258CC	03/20/2018
I16Z0020200	04/21/2017



U.S. Department of
Transportation

Office of Inspector General
Washington, D.C. 20590

August 24, 2018

Mark Hines
Assistant Inspector General for Investigations
Office of Inspector General
U.S. Small Business Administration
409 3rd St, SW.
Washington DC 20416

Dear Mr. Hines:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Report on the Quality Assessment Review of the investigative operations of the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of Inspector General.

We are pleased to accept your finding that our internal safeguards and management procedures are in compliance with the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's quality standards and other guidelines and statutes.

We would like to commend you, your team leader Special Agent Talmadge Gaylor, and team members for the professionalism displayed during the review. Please express my appreciation to your staff for their time and dedication. Should you have any questions, please call Michelle McVicker, Principal Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 366-1959.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Behm', with a large, sweeping flourish on the left side.

Mitchell Behm
Deputy Inspector General