



OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL  
FOR THE TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM  
1801 L STREET, NW, 4TH FLOOR  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

March 3, 2016

Linda Halliday  
Deputy Inspector General  
Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General  
801 I Street, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20001

**Subject: Report on the Quality Assessment Review of the Investigative Operations of the Office of Inspector General for the VA Office of Inspector General**

Dear Deputy Inspector General Halliday:

We have reviewed the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the Office of Investigations of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General (VA-OIG) in effect for the period October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2014. Our review was conducted in conformity with the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Quality Standards for Investigations, the Quality Assessment Review Guidelines established by the CIGIE, and the Attorney General's Guidelines for Office of Inspectors General with Statutory Law Enforcement Authority, as applicable.

In performing our review, we have given consideration to the prerequisites of Section 6(e) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (as amended) and Section 812 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub.L. 107-296). Those documents authorize law enforcement powers for eligible personnel of each of the various offices of presidentially appointed Inspectors General. Those powers may be exercised only for activities authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, other statutes, or as expressly authorized by the Attorney General.

The review was conducted at the headquarters office in Washington, D.C., and the Dallas and Los Angeles field locations. Additionally, a sample of 55 case files for investigations was reviewed. Whistleblower retaliation cases and Hotline administration were not reviewed as it was determined these functions were outside of the purview of VA-OIG's Office of investigations.

In our opinion, the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative function of the VA OIG in effect for October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2014, is in compliance with the quality standards established by CIGIE and the Attorney General Guidelines. These safeguards and procedures provide reasonable assurance of conforming to professional standards in the conduct of its investigations.



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I would like to commend your staff for their professionalism during the course of this review. I would also like to thank them for their assistance in providing the Review Team accurate and timely responses to their inquiries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christy Goldsmith Romero". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

The Honorable Christy Goldsmith Romero  
Special Inspector General

Cc: U.S. Department of Justice  
Attn: Attorney General (CIGIE Investigative Peer Review)  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Executive Director  
Counsel of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency  
1717 H Street NW, Suite 825  
Washington, DC 20006