



NASA OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SUITE 8U71, 300 E ST SW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546-0001

December 10, 2018

The Honorable Michael J. Missal
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Inspector General
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Subject: Report on the Qualitative Assessment Review of the Investigative Operations of the Office of Inspector General for the Department of Veterans Affairs

Dear Inspector General Missal,

We have reviewed the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative operations of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in effect for the period ended July 30, 2018. Our review was conducted in conformity 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 VA OIG system of internal policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. The review was conducted at the headquarters office in Washington, D.C. and in satellite/field locations in Atlanta, GA, Houston, TX, Los Angeles, CA and Sacramento, CA. Additionally, we sampled 85 case files for investigations closed during the period under review.

In performing our review, we also gave given 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.

In our opinion, the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative function of the VA OIG in effect for the year ended 2018 is in compliance with the quality standards established by the CIGIE and other applicable guidelines and statutes cited

above. These safeguards and procedures provide reasonable assurance of conforming to professional standards in the planning, execution, and reporting of the office's investigations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "PKM/A". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Paul K. Martin
Inspector General

cc: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General
Carl W. Hoecker, Chair, CIGIE Investigations Committee



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
INSPECTOR GENERAL
WASHINGTON DC 20420

December 12, 2018

The Honorable Paul K. Martin
Inspector General
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of the Inspector General
300 E Street SW, Suite 8U71
Washington, DC 20546-0001

Dear Inspector General Martin,

This is a follow-up to your letter dated December 10, 2018 outlining the results of the Quality Assessment Review (QAR) of the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Office of Investigations.

I want to express my appreciation for the professionalism and thoroughness of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) OIG team that conducted the QAR. I am pleased your team found that the collective policies and procedures of the Office of Investigations facilitate compliance with the applicable guidelines and standards issued by the Council of Inspectors General for Integrity and Efficiency and the Attorney General. I was also encouraged to hear that your review team was impressed with our hotline division and its operations, designating it as a "best practice."

We have reviewed your letter of observations, which was informative and helpful. We are committed to implementing a plan of action to address these observations that will enhance our operations moving forward.

We look forward to working with your agency in the future. Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at (202) 461-4720 or Michael.Missal@va.gov. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Missal". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Michael J. Missal
Inspector General
US Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Inspector General