



Congressional Budget Justification

Council of the Inspectors General
on Integrity and Efficiency

FISCAL YEAR 2025



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Executive Summary

The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's (CIGIE's) fiscal year (FY) 2025 budget request is \$24.2 million, of which \$8 million is requested as a direct appropriation to the revolving fund. The remaining budget is collected from assessments from the 74 Offices of Inspector General (OIGs) that are members of CIGIE and tuition collected to offset costs incurred by the CIGIE Training Institute.

The \$8 million requested as a direct appropriation includes \$1.6 million to support the ongoing operations, maintenance, and improvements of Oversight.gov. The funding will also allow CIGIE to host additional OIG websites in further support of Inspector General (IG) independence and support the redesign and refresh of the website to optimize stakeholders' user experience.

Building on the FY 2024 funding that will plan, design, and build the information technology infrastructure needed for a permanent data analytics center at CIGIE, the \$8 million requested as a direct appropriation also includes \$6.4 million to continue contracts and hire permanent staff and/or contractors to maintain the data analytics functions needed to support the OIG community. Since the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) is scheduled to sunset on September 30, 2025, this funding is necessary to provide continuity of services during the transition period.

The FY 2025 request also includes the authority to allow unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated to the OIGs described under 5 U.S.C 424(b)(1)(A) for salaries and operating expenses to be transferred to CIGIE. Currently, all costs associated with CIGIE's operations are passed through to all of the OIGs, requiring them to request additional funding to maintain their own operations. The authority to transfer expired funds to CIGIE provides an additional funding source that may offset future increased operating expenses and one-time costs without adversely impacting member OIGs' available annual operating budget. This authority would apply only to FY 2025 and beyond, so the benefits to CIGIE would not be realized until FY 2026 or later. The use of this authority to transfer expired funds within five years after the last fiscal year for which such funds were available would require the approval of CIGIE's Chairperson and the IG of the office from which the funds are transferred.



Agency Overview

CIGIE was established as an independent agency under the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008. CIGIE's membership is made up of 74 individual IGs from both the Executive and Legislative branches, along with six integrity-related senior officials:

- Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, OMB
- Deputy Director, Office of Personnel Management
- Special Counsel, Office of the Special Counsel
- Senior level official of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) designated by the Director of the FBI
- Director, Office of Government Ethics

The Council is led by the elected Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, and members of the Executive Council. The Executive Council is made up of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, CIGIE Committee Chairpersons, the past Chairperson, and an at-large member.

CIGIE is funded through member contributions as authorized in the Inspectors General Act of 1978, as amended (IG Act), as well as direct appropriations for specific activities. CIGIE's funding is used to further its statutory mission:

To address integrity, economy, and effectiveness issues that transcend individual Government agencies, and increase the professionalism and effectiveness of personnel by developing policies, standards, and approaches to aid in the establishment of a well-trained and highly skilled workforce in the Offices of Inspector General (OIGs).

The Council's mission is supported by agency staff as well as committees and working groups made up of staff from individual OIGs. CIGIE's permanent staff consists of 36 full-time equivalents (FTEs), 13 of which support training efforts. The FY 2025 funding request would also provide up to 15 FTE or contractors to support the data analytics center at CIGIE.

CIGIE also includes the PRAC, which was established in March 2020 by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Scheduled to sunset on September 30, 2025, this Committee has a total of 60 temporary FTEs in FY 2024 and 49 temporary FTEs in FY 2025 to detect fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement of COVID-19 pandemic relief funds, promote transparency, and provide Congress, agencies, and the public with objective and reliable information on covered funds. Funds provided to the PRAC in the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 are multi-year in nature and are intended to fund PRAC operations through September 30, 2025.



CIGIE Committees

Besides its permanent and temporary agency staff, CIGIE consists of nine standing committees, in addition to the PRAC, that help ensure the integrity, economy, and effectiveness of OIGs and resolve issues that span the community. The committees also play an important role in developing the professionalism of OIG personnel by developing policies, standards, and training to ensure the OIG community has a highly skilled workforce. The committee chairpersons are members of the CIGIE Executive Council.

The nine committees support the following areas:

- Audit
- Budget
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
- Inspection and Evaluation
- Integrity
- Investigations
- Legislative
- Professional Development
- Technology

Appropriations Language

*For necessary expenses of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency to develop and test information technology resources and oversight mechanisms to enhance transparency of and detect and remediate waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal spending, **\$8,000,000**, to remain available until expended, of which **\$1,600,000** shall be for expenses related to enhancements to www.oversight.gov: Provided, That the amounts appropriated under this heading shall be in addition to any other amounts available to the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency under 5 U.S.C. 424: Provided further, That the unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated for this fiscal year by this or any other Act to the offices of the Inspector General described under 5 U.S.C. 424(b)(1)(A) for salaries and operating expenses may be transferred to the Inspectors General Council Fund no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds were available for the purposes for which appropriated: Provided further, That funds transferred pursuant to the previous proviso shall remain available until expended, and are in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, to carry out the functions and duties of the Council: Provided further, That a transfer under this heading may only be made upon approval of the Chairperson of the Council and the Inspector General of the office from which the funds are to be transferred.*

Appropriations Request

Oversight.gov

The FY 2025 Budget request of \$8 million includes \$1.6 million for the ongoing operations, maintenance, and improvements of Oversight.gov. This represents a \$750,000 increase over the FY 2024 continuing resolution level that is primarily needed to offset increased contractor costs. This funding will allow CIGIE to both operate and maintain the existing website, to host more OIG websites in further support of IG independence, and to support the redesign and refresh of the website to optimize the user experience for our stakeholders.

The IG Act, as codified at 5 USC § 424(e)(2), requires CIGIE to establish and maintain a website entitled Oversight.gov. Launched in October 2017, Oversight.gov is a powerful tool that lends transparency to the work of Federal OIGs by consolidating all public reports in one place and improving the public's access to important information. By any measure, Oversight.gov has been an extraordinary success, delivering outstanding results for the taxpayers. In the years since its launch, more than 25,000 text-searchable OIG reports have been posted to Oversight.gov, which include thousands of recommendations to improve Government operations. Annually, these OIG reports identify tens of billions of dollars in potential taxpayer savings.

The website totals more than 1 million engagements (visits, report downloads, etc.) annually and stakeholders in the Executive Branch, Congress, and non-government organizations, among others, regularly report on the importance of Oversight.gov to their work. Moreover, CIGIE has used the Oversight.gov platform to benefit the public in several significant and important ways:

- CIGIE built and launched the PRAC website within 30 days of PRAC's creation based on the Oversight.gov platform, at a very modest expense and consistent with the provisions of the CARES Act (which explicitly referenced Oversight.gov).
- CIGIE established an open recommendations database for the public and policymakers to view OIG recommendations and help promote the timely implementation of them, thereby saving taxpayer money.
- CIGIE introduced an IG vacancy tracker, allowing the public to see which IG positions are vacant, the length of the vacancy, and how long IG nominees have been awaiting Senate confirmation.
- CIGIE developed a centralized whistleblower reporting webpage that provides Federal employees and members of the public information about how to report waste, fraud, and abuse, as well as the protections available to those who report wrongdoing.
- CIGIE created a Disaster Oversight webpage to provide a central location for all disaster-related oversight work performed by OIGs and the CIGIE Disaster Assistance Working Group.
- CIGIE is using the Oversight.gov platform to develop and host OIG websites, allowing OIGs to modernize their webpages and to have greater control over the management of their webpages with independence from their home agency. As of December 2023, 20 OIGs have migrated their webpages to the Oversight.gov platform and 17 additional OIGs have demonstrated interest in having their websites hosted on the platform.

Establishing a Permanent Data Analytics Center within CIGIE

Congress first funded a data analytics platform for the OIG community in 2009, when the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board (RATB) created the Recovery Operations Center (ROC) to help the RATB oversee over \$800 billion in emergency spending. The ROC was a successful analytics tool during its FY 2009 to FY 2015 operations. In 2015, the Government Accountability Office issued a report urging the Administration and Congress to extend the capabilities of the ROC after the RATB sunset on September 30, 2015. The ROC's capabilities were not, however, extended and, when the pandemic started, the capabilities were re-established in the Pandemic Analytics Center of Excellence (PACE) that resides within the PRAC.

The FY 2025 Budget request of \$8 million includes \$6.4 million to fund the next stage of creating a permanent data analytics center at CIGIE. This request builds on the FY 2024 funding to support the planning, designing, and building of infrastructure necessary to move the PACE analytic functions from PRAC to CIGIE itself. Because the PACE is still operational for most of FY 2025, the \$6.4 million will be used to establish contracts and hire permanent staff and/or contractors to ensure the capability of the PACE is not lost when the PRAC sunsets. An appropriation for the full annual funding for the data analytics center will be needed in FY 2026.

Funding in FY 2025 will allow CIGIE to transition the experience and expertise of the PACE to CIGIE, as well as provide a permanent data analytics platform for OIGs and the agencies they oversee (consistent with safeguards and OIG independence). The permanent data analytics platform will enable OIGs to use common government and commercial data sets to detect and prevent fraud and identify economies and efficiencies across government entities. Because the PACE will be operational in FY 2025, the full operating costs for the data analytics center is not needed until a future fiscal year.

Transfer Authority

The request also includes the authority to allow unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated to the OIGs described under 5 U.S.C 424(b)(1)(A) for salaries and operating expenses to be transferred to CIGIE. Currently, neither the House nor Senate language includes the proposal for this authority in the FY 2024 appropriations bill. Therefore, this authority would apply only to FY 2025 and beyond; as a result, the benefits to CIGIE would not be realized until FY 2026 or later. The authority to transfer expired funds within five years after the last fiscal year for which such funds were available also requires the approval of the CIGIE Chairperson and the IG from whom the funds are transferred.

Currently, all costs associated with CIGIE's operations are passed through to all of the OIGs, requiring them to request additional funding to maintain their own operations. The authority to transfer expired funds to CIGIE provides an additional funding source that may offset future increased operating expenses and one-time costs without adversely impacting member OIGs' available annual operating budget.

Because this authority applies only to expired funds and may be transferred to CIGIE up to the five years after the funds expired, the language will not have an impact on CIGIE's FY 2025 operations. However, in future fiscal years, if the authority generates adequate resources to fund increased operational costs or one-time costs, then those increases do not have to be passed through to the member OIGs. CIGIE's operating costs and budget are reviewed by various IGs, including the Budget Committee and general membership, and these transfers will be reviewed and approved by CIGIE's Chairperson and the IG from whom the funds are transferred.



CIGIE Resources

CIGIE resources are derived from three sources:

- a) **Assessments from OIGs.** The main source of funding for CIGIE is through assessments collected from the CIGIE membership. CIGIE provides the assessment amount to the OIGs to be included in their budget request to Congress. Once appropriated by Congress, CIGIE collects the funding from each OIG. Since the assessment collections typically occur in the second half of the fiscal year and take multiple weeks to coordinate and execute, the assessments fund the following fiscal year.
- b) **Tuition from Training Institute Classes.** Tuition is charged by the Training Institute to offset costs of providing the classes as well as support the Training Institute in the development and delivery of new training classes.
- c) **Appropriations from Congress.** Appropriations are provided to the CIGIE revolving fund for specific activities that benefit the IG community for projects of interest where increasing funding through the interagency process would be more burdensome. Since FY 2019, Oversight.gov has been funded from a direct appropriation. Beginning in FY 2024, the President's Budget includes a request to improve the CIGIE infrastructure to support a data analytics capacity once the PRAC sunsets.

The PRAC was funded by appropriations from Congress that were not added to the CIGIE revolving fund, but managed as stand-alone appropriations. Additional information can be found in the discussion titled Pandemic Response Accountability Committee.

CIGIE Revolving Fund

CIGIE collects assessments from its 74 members in advance of every fiscal year, based on a vote of its full membership. As such, these assessments appear annually in the revolving fund beginning fund balance and are needed to fund CIGIE during that same fiscal year (i.e., CIGIE’s assessment collections in FY 2024 will appear in the beginning fund balance of FY 2025 and fund CIGIE’s operations in FY 2025). CIGIE’s revolving fund provides resources for all CIGIE activities except for those of the PRAC.

CIGIE’s annual operating budget is also approved by a vote of the full membership prior to the fiscal year. Since it takes coordination among CIGIE’s full membership to fund unexpected or one-time costs, revolving fund resources are not available for repurposing in the same fiscal year. Nonetheless, CIGIE’s revolving fund includes a reserve for emergencies and set asides for known upcoming expenses (e.g., a required office move at the Brunswick, GA, location).

Object Class Table

Object Class Category	Dollars in Thousands		
	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
11.1 Full-time Permanent	\$ 3,501	\$ 4,657	\$ 4,987
11.8 Special Personnel Services Payments	\$ 1,504	\$ 1,316	\$ 1,342
11.9 Total Personnel Compensation	\$ 5,005	\$ 5,973	\$ 6,329
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$ 1,140	\$ 1,582	\$ 1,699
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$ 449	\$ 300	\$ 300
22.0 Transportation of Things	\$ 119	\$ -	\$ -
23.1 Rental Payments to GSA	\$ 210	\$ 743	\$ 753
23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Miscellaneous Charges	\$ 51	\$ 94	\$ 95
24.0 Printing and Reproduction	\$ 18	\$ 100	\$ 100
25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services	\$ 4,958	\$ 2,032	\$ 2,107
25.2 Other Services from non-Federal Sources	\$ 21	\$ 2,731	\$ 6,739
25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources	\$ 5,252	\$ 3,284	\$ 6,022
26.0 Supplies and Materials	\$ 57	\$ 75	\$ 75
31.0 Equipment	\$ 218	\$ 29	\$ 29
Total New Obligations	\$ 17,498	\$ 16,943	\$ 24,248

Revolving Fund Status

	Dollars in Thousands		
	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
	Actual	CR Level	Request
Beginning Fund Balance	\$19,741	\$19,669	\$19,664
<i>Offsetting Collections (carryover)</i>	\$18,938	\$19,344	\$19,664
<i>Appropriation (carryover)</i>	\$ 803	\$ 325	\$ -
Recoveries	\$ 1,728		
Offsetting Collections	\$14,848	\$16,088	\$16,726
<i>Assessments</i>	\$12,557	\$14,143	\$14,726
<i>Tuition / Misc.</i>	\$ 2,291	\$ 1,945	\$ 2,000
Appropriation	\$ 850	\$ 850	\$ 8,000
<i>Oversight.gov</i>	\$ 850	\$ 850	\$ 1,600
<i>Data Analytics Infrastructure</i>			\$ 6,400
Total Resources	\$37,167	\$36,607	\$44,390
Total Obligations	\$17,498	\$16,943	\$24,248
<i>CIGIE Operations</i>	\$10,513	\$ 9,588	\$10,013
<i>Training Institute</i>	\$ 5,645	\$ 6,180	\$ 6,235
<i>Oversight.gov</i>	\$ 1,340	\$ 1,175	\$ 1,600
<i>Data Analytics Infrastructure</i>			\$ 6,400
Future Fiscal Year	\$19,669	\$19,664	\$20,142
Full-Time Equivalents	28	34	36

	Dollars in Thousands
	FY 2026 Estimated*
Future Fiscal Year	\$20,142
<i>CIGIE/ Training Institute Operations</i>	\$14,667
<i>FLETC Office Move</i>	\$ 687
<i>Emergency Fund / Working Capital</i>	\$ 4,788
<i>Oversight.gov Carryover</i>	\$ 0

* CIGIE's revolving fund balance at the end of the fiscal year must be adequate to fund CIGIE operations for the subsequent fiscal year. Any remaining unobligated balance at the end of FYs 2023, 2024, and 2025 will offset upcoming one-time expenses, such as the move of the Training Institute's office at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Brunswick, GA, additional support activities of the Council, or other increases in the costs of operations.



CIGIE Operations

The FY 2025 funding level for CIGIE Operations is \$10 million and 23 FTEs. CIGIE Operations include funding the Executive Director's office and operations staff to provide support through HR and payroll services, budget and financial management, procurement, registration, and other agency functions, the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), Office of the General Counsel (OGC), and the Integrity Committee.

Office of the Executive Director. The Executive Director provides oversight and direction to the agency. The Executive Director coordinates closely with the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson on issues impacting the agency, as well as issues that impact the CIGIE membership. The Executive Director works with the Congressional and External Affairs Specialist to coordinate with the Legislation Committee about issues facing the CIGIE membership.

Operations. The Operations staff is responsible for providing support for all standard agency operations either directly or working with our service providers. These standard agency operations include human resources and payroll, budget and financial management, procurement, facilities management, records management, Equal Employment Opportunity reporting, meeting other external Government-wide mandates that apply to all agencies, and other activities.

An agency-specific responsibility of the operations staff is enrolling students in the Training Institute courses, working with OIGs to fill vacant seats in classes, coordinating with FLETC as needed, and providing support to each of the attendees in the courses (11,893 in FY 2023).

Office of the Chief Information Officer. OCIO provides IT support to all CIGIE offices, as well as designs and delivers innovative IT solutions to ensure integration between CIGIE systems. OCIO also focuses on streamlining and modernizing CIGIE IT, supporting cybersecurity, and improving customer service.

Office of the General Counsel. OGC provides legal support to all CIGIE offices and programs, as well as to the broader CIGIE membership. OGC also provides legal services involving contracting, acquisition policy, appropriations law, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and the Privacy Act. OGC also advises on responses to congressional inquiries, assists in the preparation of congressional testimony, and develops and manages the CIGIE ethics program.

Integrity Committee. The Integrity Committee is required by the IG Act and has the statutory responsibility to review and refer allegations of wrongdoing made against IGs and their designated employees. These staff members support the Integrity Committee activities described above.



CIGIE Training Institute

The FY 2025 funding for the CIGIE Training Institute is \$6.2 million and 13 FTE. This amount includes an estimated \$2 million collected in tuition, as well as other fees that are paid to FLETC.

The Training Institute enrolled 11,893 learners in FY 2023 (up from 11,200 in the prior year). This number represents the equivalent of roughly 85% of the entire combined OIG workforce (up from 80%). This a 6% increase in enrollment over FY 2022. The Training Institute's staffing levels, however, have remained unchanged since FY 2013 when total enrollment was 1,700. In other words: in FY 2023 the Training Institute trained 600% more enrollees than it did 10 years ago with no additional staff.

In FY 2023, for the first time and on a limited basis, the Training Institute was able to demonstrate a positive statistical correlation in the self-reported relationship between training and on-the-job performance. In this example, the control group (i.e., a population that had not participated in CIGIE training) rated their ability to perform successfully a set of 14 critical tasks at an average of 66% (low confidence). Post-training, the ratings increased to an average 93% (high-to-totally confident). This pattern subsequently repeated itself across multiple cohorts of learners. The Training Institute will continue to refine and expand its measurement strategy moving forward.

The number of learning events offered increased once again during this fiscal year as compared to the last from 114 to 133 (an increase of 14%). The number of in-person learning continued to rebound, with 35 events being conducted, an increase of 84% as compared to the previous fiscal year.

As in past years, the Training Institute continued to support capabilities that afforded the OIG workforce access to a broad spectrum of learning opportunities. In FY 2023, that included an expanded coaching and mentoring program; rotational experiences combining learning, apprenticeships, job-shadowing, and stretch assignments; and traditional, formal learning.

The Training Institute consists of three academies:

The Inspector General Criminal Investigator Academy (IGCIA). The IGCIA was officially established at FLETC in Brunswick, GA, in February 1994 per a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between FLETC and the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE), a predecessor of CIGIE. The MOU acknowledged "the significant benefits of efficiency and effectiveness which are derived from a consolidated approach to training." In November 2000, IGCIA was established in Public Law 106-422 "for the purpose of performing investigator training services for offices of inspectors general created under the Inspector General Act of 1978." IGCIA subsequently moved under CIGIE's auspices with the passage of the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008.

The IGCIA provides IG-specific criminal investigative and related training to CIGIE member OIG personnel. It also serves as the on-site partner organization representative and liaison to FLETC on behalf of the OIG community.

The Leadership and Mission Support (L&MS) Academy. The L&MS Academy serves the OIG-specific training needs of the mission support personnel within the OIG community, as well as the OIG-specific leadership development needs of all OIG personnel. The mission of the L&MS Academy is to cross business-unit lines to promote a CIGIE-wide commitment for professional development and to enhance the professional identity within all OIG disciplines and support elements.

The Audit, Inspection & Evaluation (AI&E) Academy. The AI&E Academy strives to advance on-the-job performance and the overall capabilities of OIG auditors, inspectors, and evaluators throughout the community. It does so by addressing their OIG-specific learning requirements and providing innovative, on-demand performance support.

Pandemic Response Accountability Committee

As discussed above, the PRAC was established as a committee of CIGIE by the CARES Act of 2020. The primary functions of the PRAC are to promote transparency, support the independent oversight of more than \$5 trillion in funds provided by pandemic relief legislation, and provide oversight of the coronavirus response to detect fraud, waste, and mismanagement in Federal spending.

The PRAC is scheduled to sunset on September 30, 2025. Funds provided to the PRAC in the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 are multi-year in nature and are intended to fund PRAC operations through September 30, 2025. The appropriations support PRAC operations and 65 FTEs. The status of the PRAC funds is shown in the table below.

PRAC Object Class Table

Object Class Category	Dollars in Thousands		
	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	\$ 8,570	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,297
11.5 Other personnel compensation	\$ 117	\$ 817	\$ 750
11.9 Total Personnel Compensation	\$ 8,687	\$ 9,317	\$ 9,047
12.1 Civilian Personnel Benefits	\$ 2,645	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,558
21.0 Travel and Transportation of Persons	\$ 119	\$ 103	\$ 95
23.3 Communications, Utilities, and Miscellaneous Charges	\$ 23	\$ 65	\$ -
25.1 Advisory and Assistance Services	\$16,806	\$ 9,402	\$ 5,718
25.2 Other Services from non-Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250
25.3 Other Goods and Services from Federal Sources	\$ 209	\$ -	\$ -
26.0 Supplies and Materials	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ 76
31.0 Equipment	\$ 9	\$ -	\$ -
Total New Obligations	\$28,498	\$21,897	\$17,744

PRAC Funds Status

	Dollars in Thousands		
	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Carryover			
CARES Act	\$37,752	\$19,711	\$ 7,891
ARP Act	\$27,895	\$19,630	\$ 9,853
Total Carryover	\$65,647	\$39,341	\$17,744
Offsetting Collections/Recoveries			
CARES Act	\$ 317	\$ 300	\$ -
ARP Act	\$ 1,926	\$ -	\$ -
Total Offsetting Collections/Recoveries	\$ 2,243	\$ 300	\$ -
Obligations			
CARES Act	\$18,358	\$12,120	\$ 7,891
ARP Act	\$10,191	\$ 9,777	\$ 9,853
Total Obligations	\$28,549	\$21,897	\$17,744
Balance Remaining			
CARES Act	\$19,711	\$ 7,891	\$ -
ARP Act	\$19,630	\$ 9,853	\$ -
Total Balance	\$39,341	\$17,744	\$ -



PRAC Organization

The PRAC is an organization focused on innovation and coordination in fulfilling its transparency, oversight, and accountability mission for the more than \$5 trillion in pandemic relief spending. Together with our partners, at all levels, the PRAC has created a new model for conducting oversight in a crisis. This is evidenced by its development of a public website, PandemicOversight.gov, that puts spending data and critical insight into stakeholder hands; leveraging the power of analytics and advanced technology to ensure accountability; participation in “gold standard” meetings to provide insights to agencies on program controls prior to agency funds being distributed; jointly issuing Payment Integrity Alerts with the OMB; and enhancing Federal, state and local oversight partnerships to promote a whole of government approach. In addition, to date, the PRAC and its member OIGs have issued 664 reports with 1,381 recommendations and more than \$89.4 billion in total monetary findings.

The PRAC has 7 Directorates that support its mission:

Oversight and Accountability Directorate. The PRAC’s Oversight and Accountability Directorate (O&A) houses its auditing, evaluations, and investigative functions, which produce critical and coordinated oversight for more than \$5 trillion in pandemic funding. As one of the organization’s main mission components, O&A’s work directly supports the PRAC’s goals of promoting transparency and conducting oversight of the coronavirus response and associated funds to (1) prevent and detect fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement, as well as (2) mitigate major risks that cut across program and agency boundaries.

In addition to producing audit and evaluation-based products such as management advisories, fraud alerts, and capping reports highlighting major findings and risks across pandemic programs, O&A leads and provides strategic direction for the PRAC’s Fraud Task Force. Comprising more than 50 agents from 15 OIGs, the Fraud Task Force serves as a resource for the OIG community by surging investigative resources into the areas with the greatest need. PRAC Fraud Task Force agents are located across the country and are working cases that would otherwise go unaddressed due to the scale of pandemic fraud. The PRAC Fraud Task Force works closely with other Federal law enforcement partners to combat pandemic fraud, including the FBI, U.S. Secret Service, and DOJ’s COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement Task Force, among many others.

O&A is also leading the way in providing coordinated oversight and accountability for pandemic funds and programs in close partnership with our state and local partners. The PRAC has employed several innovative initiatives to deepen these partnerships, including hiring a former State Auditor as a Special Advisor, launching a State Auditor-in-Residence Program that welcomes state experts to the PRAC as detailees, and offering quarterly investigative briefings to state and local law enforcement entities to highlight fraud schemes and share lessons-learned.

Beyond conducting its own oversight activities, O&A continues to enhance the oversight community's ability to provide quality, coordinated oversight wherever possible. For example, in January 2023, O&A hosted the community's first-ever Agile Oversight Forum, a day-long training event attended by more than 1,550 state, local and Federal oversight professionals. Agile oversight highlights issues that require immediate action for oversight officials or Congressional stakeholders and others who have requested reviews of high-risk areas and ensures that agency leadership, affected stakeholders, and the public have access to information quickly. The Forum helped ensure that members of the OIG community are sharing best practices in agile oversight and employing this cutting-edge approach across pandemic funds and program oversight, among other critical issues.

Outreach and Engagement. The PRAC's Outreach and Engagement Directorate is responsible for communication with external stakeholders on the PRAC's mission, capabilities, and work to date overseeing more than \$5 trillion in pandemic relief funding. The PRAC has a duty to the American public, policymakers, Congress, and the press to provide timely and relevant insight on how federal taxpayer dollars are being spent in response to the pandemic.

The Outreach and Engagement Directorate supports the PRAC's strategic goal to promote transparency and oversight of pandemic spending. It does this by creating and deploying communication strategies to engage external audiences, including development of creative, timely, and relevant content, coordinating with PRAC partner OIGs to identify opportunities to collaborate and amplify their work, and increasing awareness of the PRAC's mission, role, and resources for external audiences.

Transparency. The Transparency Directorate executes the PRAC's statutory requirement to "establish and maintain a user-friendly, public-facing website to foster greater accountability and transparency." As such, it collects, ingests, and analyzes spending and program data on the more than \$5 trillion dollars in pandemic spending and ensures the PRAC website provides up-to-date visualizations, tools, and content for the public. The team consists of expert data analysts, who are responsible for the ingestion and display of public data on the PRAC website, and website managers, who oversee and create content for PandemicOversight.gov. Both are responsible for communicating complex data analysis using plain language and simple visualizations to ensure it is easily accessible and understandable for the public. The team serves as the liaison between other agencies and entities that are responsible for providing data on pandemic spending, guaranteeing that PandemicOversight.gov remains the centralized location for all spending data and information.

Office of the Chief Data Officer. The Office of the Chief Data Officer optimizes the use of data to promote transparency and detect fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement in pandemic spending. To support this mission, it established the PACE to provide a leading-edge analytic platform that uses data as a strategic asset and provides data-based insight. Its services include (a) conducting data analysis and visualization, (b) providing investigative support, (c) promoting leading practices, and (d) sharing data, tools, and services.

Conducting Data Analysis and Visualization: The PACE conducts independent analysis to understand trends, patterns and vulnerabilities associated with pandemic spending, while also working with OIGs on special projects. It has developed five risk scoring models using 96 fraud indicators to assess tens of millions of transactions and entities and flag them for deeper analysis. It has produced four dashboards that it shares with OIGs to monitor flagged entities. To date, it has examined fraud schemes and controls weaknesses, including identity-based fraud, income misrepresentation, multi-dipping across programs, improper payment, eligibility misrepresentation, and bank due diligence.

Providing Investigative Support: The PACE provides investigative support to the OIG and law enforcement communities on pandemic-related cases. It has supported more than 30 different organizations, including the FBI, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations, and United States Attorney's Offices. To date, it has supported more than 500 investigations involving an estimated potential fraud loss of \$500 million and nearly 7,000 subjects. Its investigative support applies the latest advances in analytic and forensic technologies to identify hidden networks and connections among individuals exploiting pandemic fraud. For instance, the PACE uses artificial intelligence to explore social media connections and graph analytics to connect individuals crawling through unique identifiers present within the hundreds of millions transaction data collected. Through the use of the analytics, U.S. Attorneys and agents are able to work more effectively and efficiently to address the unprecedented volume of cases.

Sharing Data, Tools, and Service: The PACE has established MOUs with 38 OIGs to share data that will help investigators better identify criminal entities perpetrating fraud across agencies and programs. It now houses 37 distinct public and non-public data sources to optimize the quality of its analysis and look for fraud that cuts across programs and agencies. It has shared the code it develops with 12 OIGs and established a contract vehicle that OIGs can use to purchase information technology, data management, analytics, visualization, and investigation support services. It has also piloted the use of Robotic Process Automation for the purpose of accelerating and improving the quality of repetitive tasks, including conditional random field (CRF) recipient quarterly reporting reviews and the automated generation of letters for suspension and debarment officers.

Promoting Leading Practices: The PRAC is committed to leaving a flexible advanced analytics platform for the Federal OIG community when the PRAC sunsets. It has surveyed the OIG community to better understand OIG data sharing needs and inventoried current analytic tools, standards, and practices. It has used this research to address pressing needs, including sharing cleansed data and risk indicators, housing and managing common data at an enterprise level, and adopting leading edge tools and approaches. As part of its objective to cultivate data literacy it launched a Data Science Fellowship Program with more than 25 participants to date, including three that have since been hired by their host OIG. To optimize the use of data analytics, the PACE has instituted leading practices, including enterprise data management (EDM). Through this initiative, it has established governance processes; maintains an inventory of critical data sets; defined data policies and standards; laid the foundation for improving data quality processes; and cataloged its high priority data sets and sources.

Office of the Chief Information Officer. The PRAC OCIO delivers business technology services to achieve PRAC objectives by identifying, implementing, and securing solutions. OCIO minimizes overall system risk through improvements in effectiveness, mature productivity, operations, and digital experience. OCIO further optimizes an IT organization to understand and anticipate business needs.

Office of the Chief Counsel. The Office of the Chief Counsel provides functional leadership regarding legal services and issues related to all aspects of PRAC activities. These services and issues include establishing and disseminating legal policy and interpreting new statutes and cases related to the CARES Act, the Inspector General Act, criminal and civil law, contracts and procurement law, employment and personnel law, whistleblower law, fiscal and appropriations law, safety and security law, and other general law issues. The Office of Chief Counsel is also responsible for managing legislative affairs, developing and implementing the ethics program requirements, establishing metrics, and developing quality standards.

Office of the Chief Management Officer. The Office of the Chief Management Officer provides platform support services to all PRAC directorates. These services include human resources, procurement, budget and financial management, as well as other administrative and logistical support functions.



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