

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM
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<http://oversight.house.gov>

April 6, 2016

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 4322
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Horowitz:

On February 11, 2015, the Committee surveyed federal Inspectors General (IGs) to obtain data related to potential reforms that, if implemented, would reduce costs and improve efficiency throughout the federal government. The data provided by the IGs showed that opportunities exist at many federal agencies to save money and to secure their information technology infrastructures, among other things. The data is consistent with the findings of the Committee's previous surveys, including the January 2009¹ survey by Chairman Henry Waxman who found nearly 14,000 unimplemented cost-saving recommendations could have saved taxpayers more than \$25 billion; and the March 2013² survey by Chairman Darrell Issa who found more than 16,000 open recommendations worth approximately \$67 billion.

The IGs remain one of the best investments of taxpayer dollars in all of government. Last year, approximately 14,000 employees at 72 offices identified potential savings totaling approximately \$46.5 billion. With the IG community's aggregate budget of approximately \$2.6 billion, these potential savings represent about an \$18 return on every taxpayer dollar invested.³

The Committee's survey also returned valuable information that will inform our effort to update the Inspector General Act to ensure that IGs have complete, unfiltered, and timely access to the agency records they need to make findings and recommendations. Through their survey responses, and in other communications, the IG community has been clear that ensuring the ability to perform their mission in a timely and independent manner is a chief concern.⁴

¹ H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform, *Staff Report: Inspectors General: Implementing Thousands of Open Recommendations Could Save Taxpayers Almost \$26 Billion*, 110th Cong. (Jan. 2009).

² H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform, *Staff Report: Open and Unimplemented IG Recommendations Could Save Taxpayers \$67 Billion*, 113th Cong. (Mar. 5, 2013).

³ Council of Inspectors Gen. on Integrity and Efficiency, *Progress Report to the President, Fiscal Year 2014*, available at <https://www.ignet.gov/sites/default/files/files/FY14-Progress-Report-to-the-President.pdf> (last accessed Jan. 22, 2015).

⁴ See, e.g., *id.* at 10.

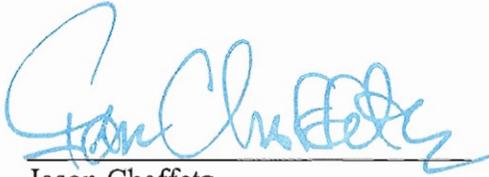
So the Committee can continue to track the volume and value of the inventory of open and unimplemented IG recommendations, and whether you are receiving complete, unfiltered, and timely access to the agency records, please provide the following information:

1. The current number of recommendations by your office that are open or unimplemented.
2. The cumulative estimated cost savings associated with the current number of open and unimplemented recommendations.
3. For those recommendations that would result in cost savings if implemented, specify the recommendation, the date the recommendation was made, and an estimate for the cost savings that would be realized if the recommendation were implemented.
4. Which three open or unimplemented recommendations does your office consider to be the most important or urgent? For each, identify:
 - a. The status of the recommendation, including whether agency management has agreed or disagreed with the recommendation and the expected date of implementation; and,
 - b. The cost savings associated with the recommendation (if applicable).
5. A summary of all closed investigations, evaluations, and audits that were not disclosed to the public since March 1, 2015, including case number, disposition, a brief description of the allegation, and the date the investigation was closed.
6. The total number of individuals referred by your office to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution, and the total number of prosecutions in response to those referrals, since March 1, 2015.
7. List and describe any instances where the agency refused to provide, or otherwise delayed or restricted your access to, records or other information, since March 1, 2015.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight Committee in the House of Representatives and has broad oversight jurisdiction as set forth in House Rule X.

Please provide the requested information as soon as possible, but by no later than April 20, 2016. Please deliver your responses to the Majority staff in Room 2157 of the Rayburn House Office Building and the Minority staff in Room 2471 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Committee prefers, if possible, to receive all documents in electronic format.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Tristan Leavitt, Dimple Shah, and Mike Howell of Chairman Chaffetz' staff at (202) 225-5074 or Mark Stephenson of Ranking Member Cummings's staff at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



Jason Chaffetz
Chairman

Sincerely,



Elijah E. Cummings
Ranking Member

2016-04-06 JC EEC to 73 IGs - Open & Unimplemented Survey due 4-20 (73 letters) sent to:

Railroad Retirement Board	Alexa Armstrong
U.S. Department of Commerce	Julie Dunne
U.S. Department of Labor	Alexa Armstrong
U.S. Department of Justice	Tristan/Dimple/Mike
Federal Labor Relations Authority	Katie Bailey
Office of Personnel Management	Katie Bailey
U.S. Department of Education	Katie Bailey
Election Assistance Commission	Chris D'Angelo
Federal Election Commission	Jeffrey Post
National Credit Union Administration	Chris D'Angelo
Corporation for National and Community Service	Alexa Armstrong
Export-Import Bank of the United States	Julie Dunne
Government of the District of Columbia	Chris D'Angelo
Federal Housing Finance Agency	Mike Kiko
Smithsonian Institution	Chris D'Angelo
Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program	Julie Dunne
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	Alexa Armstrong
National Endowment for the Arts	Chris D'Angelo
National Endowment for the Humanities	Chris D'Angelo
Architect of the Capitol	Katy Rother
Government Accountability Office	Katy Rother
Government Printing Office	Katy Rother
Library of Congress	Katy Rother
U.S. Capitol Police	Katy Rother
Consumer Product Safety Commission	Alexa Armstrong
Federal Trade Commission	Julie Dunne
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Alexa Armstrong
Social Security Administration	Sean Hayes
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Sean Hayes
Appalachian Regional Commission	Bill McGrath
Farm Credit Administration	Bill McGrath
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	Bill McGrath
The Denali Commission	Bill McGrath
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Bill McGrath
U.S. Department of Energy	Bill McGrath
U.S. Department of Interior	Bill McGrath
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Bill McGrath
Tennessee Valley Authority	Bill McGrath
Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration	Jack Thorlin

Legal Services Corporation	Jon Skladany
Federal Communications Commission	Tristan Leavitt
Corporation for Public Broadcasting	Alexa Armstrong
National Science Foundation	Alexa Armstrong
Small Business Administration	Jennifer Hemingway
U.S. International Trade Commission	Julie Dunne
Central Intelligence Agency	Sang Yi
Defense Intelligence Agency	Sang Yi
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency	Sang Yi
National Reconnaissance Office	Mike Howell
National Security Agency	Dimple Shah
Office of the Director of National Intelligence	Dimple Shah
Peace Corps	Art Arthur
Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction	Sang Yi
U.S. Agency for International Development	Sang Yi
U.S. Department of Defense	Sang Yi
U.S. Department of Homeland Security	Dimple Shah
U.S. Department of State	Cordell Hull
U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs	Sang Yi
National Archives and Records Administration	Jeffrey Post
National Labor Relations Board	Jeffrey Post
Postal Regulatory Commission	Jeffrey Post
U.S. Postal Service	Jeffrey Post
Federal Reserve Board	Katy Rother
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	Katy Rother
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation	Jeffrey Post
U.S. Department of the Treasury	Jeffrey Post
Securities and Exchange Commission	Jack Thorlin
Amtrak	Mike Kiko
Federal Maritime Commission	Mike Kiko
General Services Administration	Mike Kiko
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	Mike Kiko
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	Mike Kiko
U.S. Department of Transportation	Mike Kiko