

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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<https://oversight.house.gov>

July 1, 2026

The Honorable Cheryl L. Mason
Chair
Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
1750 H Street NW, Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Chair Mason:

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is continuing its oversight of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE). The Committee is concerned about recent findings made by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) showing significant failures in how CIGIE's Integrity Committee reviews and investigates complaints against inspectors general and their staff.¹ The issues identified raise serious questions about CIGIE's ability to effectively conduct investigations into misconduct and wrongdoing within offices of inspectors general. The Committee demands that CIGIE take immediate action to rectify these failures and is seeking documents and information to help determine the best legislative solutions to remedy concerns with CIGIE's Integrity Committee.

For almost five years, the Committee has raised concerns with the opacity and failures of the Integrity Committee.² In September 2024, the Committee requested that GAO conduct a study to review the Integrity Committee's processes and CIGIE's oversight of such processes.³ GAO found the following issues which further underscore the Committee's concerns:

- Regularly missing statutorily mandated status updates to Congress when investigations exceed 150 days.

¹ U.S. GOV'T ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE, GAO-26-107922, INSPECTORS GENERAL INTEGRITY COMMITTEE: STRENGTHENED OVERSIGHT AND POLICY NEEDED TO ENSURE CONSISTENT INVESTIGATIONS (2026).

² Letter from Rep. Jody Hice, Ranking Member, H. SubComm. on Gov't Operations of the H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform, to Hon. Kevin Winters, Chairperson, Council of the Inspectors Gen. on Integrity and Efficiency, (Aug. 1, 2021). *See also* Letter from Rep. Clay Higgins et. al, Ranking Member, SubComm. on Border Sec. and Enforcement of the H. Comm. on Homeland Sec., to Hon. Mark Greenblatt, Chairperson, Council of the Inspectors Gen. on Integrity and Efficiency (May 23, 2023). *See also* Oversight of the Council of the Inspectors Gen. on Integrity and Efficiency Before the SubComm. on Gov't Operations of the H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform, 118th Cong. (2024).

³ Letter from Rep. James Comer, Chairman, H. Comm. on Oversight and Gov't Reform, Rep. Pete Sessions, Chairman, H. Subcomm. on Gov't Operations, and Reps. Clay Higgins and Andy Biggs, to Hon. Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General, U.S. Gov't Accountability Office (Sep. 18, 2024) (on file with comm.).

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- None of the five investigations completed between October 2020 and March 2025 were completed within the statutory 150-day period, with the minimum taking 427 days and the longest taking over three years.
- Improper reviews that could discard complaints that the Integrity Committee should have had the opportunity to consider.
- Delays in the processing of case materials resulting in impediments to review and extending the time many investigations take to close.
- A lack of supporting documentation for and reviews of investigation-related costs that can enable unnecessary or unallowable spending.
- Final investigative reports that sometimes did not reflect the conclusions reached by the investigating office of inspector general.

These systemic failures force the Committee to consider all options at its disposal, including removing or modifying the duty to investigate wrongdoing within offices of inspectors general from CIGIE. While the Committee reviews potential changes to remedy these failures, it is imperative that CIGIE immediately improve its investigation processes to address the issues found by GAO. CIGIE must provide Congress with timely, accurate and detailed updates on the status and outcomes of investigations. Lastly, the Committee seeks the following documents and information as soon as possible but not later than July 15, 2026:

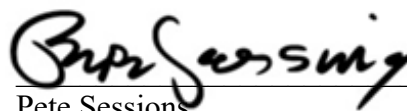
1. A list of all actions taken by CIGIE to address the findings in the GAO report;
2. All documents and communications between the Chair of CIGIE or the Chair's staff and the Integrity Committee staff or members, regarding requests for information from Congress;
3. A detailed plan of action to address the findings in the GAO report; and
4. Ideas for actions that Congress can take to work with CIGIE to improve the consistency of the Integrity Committee's complaint, investigation, and reporting processes.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. Furthermore, the Committee maintains legislative jurisdiction over the Inspector General Act of 1978 and chapter 4 of title 5 of the U.S. Code. Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and we look forward to your responses.

Sincerely,



James Comer
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

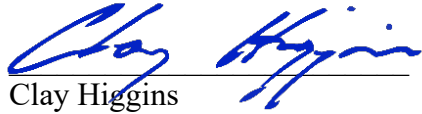


Pete Sessions
Chairman
Subcommittee on Government
Operations

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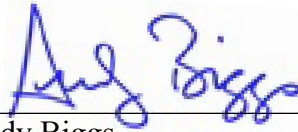
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Clay Higgins

Chairman

Subcommittee on Federal Law Enforcement



Andy Biggs

Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Robert Garcia, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Kweisi Mfume, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Government Operations