



ASSOCIATION OF INSPECTORS GENERAL

Advancing Professionalism, Accountability & Integrity

524 West 59th Street, Room 53334HH
New York, NY 10019-10019

S. WILLIAM FLETCHER
PRESIDENT

MICHAEL CASTRILLI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 10, 2025

Michael C. Westfall
State Inspector General
Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of the State Inspector General
P.O. Box 1151
Richmond, VA 23218

Dear State Inspector General Westfall,

The Association of Inspectors General (AIG) performed a Peer Review of the Virginia (VA) Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) Audit Unit (AU), Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU), Hotline Unit (HU), and Healthcare Compliance Unit (HCU) at your request. The Peer Review Team (Team) evaluated the work of these four units covering the last three years (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025). The Team performed the review during the week of September 8, 2025, which took place at your offices in Richmond, Virginia. The Peer Review assessed the work of the four units for compliance with the *Association of Inspectors General (AIG) Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General*, and the *United States General Accountability Office (GAO) Government Auditing Standards*. These standards are consistent with the qualitative standards under which your office's AU, CIU, HU, and HCU units have operated throughout the review period.

The three-person Peer Review Team consisted of the following individuals:

Team Leader and Healthcare Compliance Unit

Flora Miller, AIG Board Member and Peer Review Committee Chair
Regional Investigator / Accreditation Manager
Department of Children and Families (FL) Office of Inspector General

Team Member – Audit Unit

Dennis R. Sutton, Inspector General
City of Tallahassee (FL) Office of Inspector General

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Team Member Criminal Investigations Unit and Hotline Unit

William "Rob" R. Pace, Investigations Manager
City of Tallahassee (FL) Office of Inspector General

On behalf of the Team, I am pleased to advise that we found no reportable instances of failure to meet these standards. There are no limitations or qualifications on our opinion. It is the unanimous conclusion of the Team that AU, CIU, HU, and HCU met all relevant AIG and/or GAO standards for the period under review.

The remainder of this letter sets forth the purpose, scope, and methodology of the Peer Review.

Purpose

The Team conducted an independent, qualitative review of the operations of the AU, CIU, HU, and HCU units of the VA OSIG focusing on compliance with agreed-upon standards.

Scope

The Peer Review covered AU, CIU, HU, and HCU operations, resulting work products, and related file materials chosen from closed audits, criminal investigations, administrative investigations, and reviews from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025 for all four units. The Peer Review's scope also covered the units' compliance with their relevant policy and process manuals and procedural guides; staff qualifications; and professional training requirements, including firearms training for law enforcement staff. Lastly, the Peer Review assessed supervisory review and quality control over the work product, reporting of results, and the VA OSIG relationship and communications with outside agencies. For this last step, the Peer Review Team met with external stakeholders with whom the VA OSIG frequently work, or who are the recipients of the VA OSIG work products.

Method

The Peer Review Team generally followed the Peer Review/Qualitative Assessment Review Checklists developed by the AIG. These Checklists are based on the respective AIG and/or GAO Quality Standards. The Team also called upon their own professional experience as senior managers of various Offices of Inspector General and through their knowledge of and familiarity with best practices within the Inspector General community.

Prior to the actual on-site review, the Team requested information from AU, CIU, HU, and HCU, including but not limited to policy and procedures manuals, closed case logs, a list of issued reports, and a list of external stakeholders. The Team used this information to select the work products and related case materials that were ultimately reviewed.

On September 8, 2025, the Team held an entrance conference with you and your executive leadership, during which time we explained the Peer Review scope, methodology, limitations, and proposed schedule. During that morning, we also delivered our request for sample review materials. During the week, the Peer Reviewers conducted their fieldwork through examination of the selected case files. Peer Reviewers also interviewed staff from AU, CIU, HU, and HCU. Interviewees from all units included the Chief Deputy Inspector General (CDIG), Deputy Inspector Generals (DIGs), Supervisor Special Agent (SSA), Managers, Program Analysts, and Public Relations Officer. Members of the ID Peer Review Team also interviewed the Information Technology Manager.

The Team also reviewed the personnel files of current AU, CIU, HU, and HCU employees and reviewed their Training and Continuing Education files, Firearms Qualifications files, and all relevant policy and process manuals and procedural guides. All file requests were met fully and timely. Team members also met with you and with members of your executive leadership to gauge their involvement and interaction with AU, CIU, HU, and HCU.

The Team conducted all interviews in confidence and without any limitation on scope or time. Reviewers requested follow-up interviews and explanations, as well as any supplemental documentation, and VA OSIG staff graciously accommodated the Team.

The Team independently chose several external stakeholders to interview. Meetings were arranged between the Peer Reviewers and the external stakeholders for the purpose of evaluating agency cooperation, effectiveness, and responsiveness. Stakeholders included the following:

- Virginia Secretary of Education Aimee Guidera
- Virginia Secretary of Administration Lyn McDermid
- Virginia Secretary of Finance Stephen Cummings
- Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts Staci Henshaw
- Virginia State Police Superintendent Colonel Matthew D. Hanley
- Virginia Office of the Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General Will Wittenbrook

Finally, the Team held an exit conference with you and your executive leadership on September 10, 2025, during which time the Team shared its conclusion that AU, CIU, HU, and HCU fully met the respective AIG and/or GAO standards. Team members provided you with our observations and opinions gathered during the review. During the exit conference, the Team elaborated on the observations made during the week of review. The Team provided several observations that did not limit or qualify the opinion of the Peer Review but were shared with you and your leadership team as possible areas of consideration going forward. Throughout the week, we had productive discussions with VA OSIG members (from the leadership to professional staff) regarding their positive

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experiences from past Peer Reviews and their affirming opinions about the Peer Review process.

As noted above, it is the unanimous conclusion of the Peer Review Team that AU, CIU, HU, and HCU met all current and relevant AIG and/or GAO standards for the review period.

On behalf of the AIG, I want to thank you for the confidence placed in the Association by requesting that we conduct this review. On behalf of the Team, we would like to acknowledge and thank State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall and his designees, Deputy Inspector General Adam Tagert, Business Office Coordinator Lorne Powell, Public Relations Officer Maggie Sotos, Data Analyst Zach Yarbrough, and Security Analyst Ronnel Riganon for their efforts in the coordination and planning of this event and for ensuring that we were provided with the necessary records and tools for a thorough and smooth review. Lastly, on behalf of the Team, we would like to recognize that in all our interactions with your staff, we were shown the respect and cooperation that is the hallmark of a professional staff truly interested in a full and open review of their work. At the same time, this has been a learning experience for each member of the Peer Review Team, for which we wish to convey our sincerest thanks.

Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Peer Review Team if you have any questions.

Yours truly,



Flora Miller, AIG Peer Review Committee Chair
Team Leader, AIG Peer Review for VA OSIG, September 2025

cc:

Dennis R. Sutton, Team Member, AIG Peer Review for VA OSIG, September 2025
William "Rob" R. Pace, Team Member, AIG Peer Review for VA OSIG, September 2025
Michael Castrilli, AIG Executive Director
Jodie Stickney, AIG Project Coordinator
William Fletcher, AIG President