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OSIG NEWS

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OSIG Plans Audits of Child Protective Services, Veterans Employment and Conservation Easements in FY 2020

With increased focus on the safety of children statewide and nationally, the Virginia Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) plans to conduct an audit of the Virginia Department of Social Services' Child Protective Services this fiscal year to determine if the program is meeting goals and operating within boundaries defined in the Code of Virginia. OSIG also intends to review the Veterans Employment and Transitional Services program within the Virginia Department of Veterans Services to ascertain whether the program is successfully assisting veteran job seekers find sustained work and connecting the Commonwealth's employers with the workers they need.

In OSIG's Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Work Plan, the Audit Division also proposes to review the process used by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Virginia Department of Taxation to establish conservation easements to ensure that land submitted for easement is appropriately valued and monitored. Audit also intends to examine the Meat and Poultry Inspection program within the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services regarding the quality and handling of meat and the program's compliance with federal guidelines. The safety of Virginia's drinking water will be assessed by Audit as it studies the monitoring activities of the Virginia Department of Health Office of Drinking Water. Audit will also follow-up on findings and recommendations from previous audits to determine if agencies have implemented corrective actions.

"OSIG's 2020 work plan is a strategic road map for activities initiated during the fiscal year and includes a selection of performance audits and inspections to maximize benefits to the citizens of the Commonwealth," said State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall. "The plan also provides for management requests and criminal and administrative investigations of fraud, waste and abuse in executive branch state agencies."

Improving the operational value of the State Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline will continue to be an important task for OSIG in this fiscal year as the number of calls to the Hotline has increased 50 percent in the past five years.

To fulfill the agency's mission to facilitate good stewardship of resources, OSIG's Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) Unit plans to evaluate the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) security and safety policies as well as procedures of DBHDS-licensed facilities. BHDS is also partnering with DBHDS and the Virginia Board of Corrections to establish mental health standards for local and regional jails.

Read more details about OSIG's Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Work Plan here.

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Established in 2012, the Virginia Office of the State Inspector General manages the State Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline; conducts investigations and performance audits of state agencies; provides training and standards for the commonwealth's internal audit divisions; and conducts inspections and reviews of Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services-run facilities and programs.