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OSIG Manages More Hotline and Behavioral Health Cases in FY 2019

OSIG Releases FY 2019 Annual Report

The Virginia Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Annual Report to the Governor and General Assembly, reporting that the State Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline (Hotline) assigned 859 cases for investigation, up from 785 in FY 2018, and that OSIG's Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (BHDS) received and coordinated responses to 269 complaints, up from 38 in FY 2018.

State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall said FY 2019 saw significant changes and improvements for the agency, with a stabilized staff and high employee satisfaction. "We now have two Deputy Inspectors General to oversee the Investigations and Administration Division and the Audit Division, a newly promoted Chief of Investigations to manage the increase in workload and a new Healthcare Compliance Manager to oversee a more robust Behavioral Health and Developmental Services unit that responds to an increasing number of calls to the BHDS Complaint Line," said Westfall.

Also in FY 2019, Investigations and Law Enforcement Services opened 23 executive branch state agency investigations, compared to 19 last year, and closed 22 cases, compared to 19 in FY 2018. "Our investigations result in sound conclusions and our investigators are experienced and well-qualified," said Westfall. "We've done well promoting the State Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline, which resulted in the largest number of calls in the past four fiscal years that met the criteria for fraud, waste and abuse and required a formal investigation."

The report also states that OSIG's multiple investigations and audits in executive branch agencies resulted in many recommendations for improved internal controls, efficiency and effectiveness. Those published reports can be found on the OSIG website at <u>www.osig.virginia.gov</u>, including the <u>FY 2019 Annual Report</u>.

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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 programs; and conducts inspections and reviews of Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services facilities and programs.