




Memorandum



Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General
A State of Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Accredited Agency
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To: The Honorable Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
The Honorable Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman
and Members, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County

From: Mary T. Cagle, Inspector General 

Date: December 16, 2019

Subject: OIG Receives Re-Accreditation by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation and Passes Peer Review by the Association of Inspectors General

The Miami-Dade County Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is proud to announce that it has passed two important independent assessments confirming that the OIG adheres to established quality standards and maintains the highest level of professionalism. In June 2019, the State of Florida's Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA), the designated accrediting body of law enforcement agencies and offices of inspector general, re-accredited the office following an extensive on-site assessment. In October 2019, the OIG underwent a peer review by the Association of Inspectors General (AIG), which determined unanimously that the OIG is in compliance with all applicable standards for offices of inspectors general.

Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an office of inspector general has met specific requirements and prescribed standards. The process involves a thorough examination of an office's investigative unit policies and procedures, work product, investigative practices, supervision, personnel and training records. An accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. Once achieved, accreditation is good for three years.

The OIG was initially accredited by the CFA in July 2010 and was re-accredited in June 2013 and June 2016. In April 2019, a team selected by the CFA conducted an on-site assessment. The CFA team reviewed the OIG's Investigations Unit policies and procedures, office operations, reports, training records, personnel practices; interviewed OIG staff; and toured the OIG Airport office. After a comprehensive on-site assessment, the OIG was found in compliance with all mandatory CFA standards. In the words of the accreditation team leader, "[t]he assessment was flawless, with no discussion of non-compliance or file maintenance issues." In June 2019, the CFA re-accredited the Miami-Dade County OIG for the third time.

In October 2019, the OIG underwent the AIG's peer review process. A peer review is a voluntary process involving a thorough examination of the policies and procedures, processes, documentation, workflow and impact on the community of the requesting agency. The goal of the peer review is not just to assess how well an OIG functions, but to assess how well organizational processes and activities work toward maximizing operational efficiency and adherence to established quality standards. The review encompassed all operational units of the OIG: Investigations, Audit, and Contract Oversight.

The peer review team consisted of four experienced professionals in their respective fields. Over a four-day period, the peer review team conducted in-depth reviews of completed investigations, audits and contract oversight reports. They reviewed personnel files, scrutinized staff qualifications and examined training records. In addition, the peer review team interviewed every member of the OIG staff as well as several stakeholders, both internal and external to the County.

This was the second peer review for the OIG. The initial peer review was conducted in September 2016. It was the unanimous opinion of the peer review team that the Miami-Dade OIG's Investigation, Audit, and Contract Oversight Units are in compliance with all applicable standards. The peer review team found that the Miami-Dade County OIG met all relevant AIG Quality Standards for Offices of Inspector General and commended the office for its professionalism.

cc: Abigail Price-Williams, County Attorney
Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor
Jose Arrojo, Executive Director, Commission on Ethics and Public Trust