

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR GENERAL



2018-2019 Annual Report

Presented

September 16, 2019

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor of Florida

Melinda M. Miguel
Chief Inspector General



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF FLORIDA

Office of the Governor

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September 16, 2019

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor of the State of Florida
The Capitol, PL 05
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

In accordance with section 20.055, Florida Statutes, I am pleased to submit the Office of the Chief Inspector General's Annual Report for fiscal year 2018-2019. This report highlights our efforts and activities during the preceding fiscal year.

As this report demonstrates, the Office of the Chief Inspector General is committed to providing leadership in the promotion of accountability, integrity and public trust in government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melinda M. Miguel".

Melinda M. Miguel
Chief Inspector General



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



In accordance with sections 14.32 and 20.055, Florida Statutes (F.S.), the Office of the Chief Inspector General is responsible for promoting accountability, integrity, and efficiency in the Executive Office of the Governor and in agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor.

Consistent with these responsibilities, the Office of the Chief Inspector General completed the following activities during fiscal year 2018-2019:

- Received, reviewed, and processed 1,935 complaints and requests for assistance by Florida's citizens and government employees and closed 1,920 complaints and requests;
- Received, reviewed, and processed 1,857 pieces of additional information for existing correspondences by Florida's citizens and government employees;
- Received and processed 217 final audit reports and corrective actions, pursuant to sections 20.055(6)(f) and 20.055(6)(h), F.S., respectively, which requires Inspectors General in agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor to submit final audit reports and provide information related to significant findings and related corrective action plans to the Chief Inspector General;
- Received and reviewed 19 annual audit plans pursuant to section 20.055(6)(i), F.S., which requires Inspectors General to develop long-term and annual audit plans based on the findings of periodic risk assessments. In agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor, Inspectors General are required to submit their annual audit plans to the Chief Inspector General;
- Received, reviewed, and processed 77 notifications pursuant to section 20.055(2)(f), F.S., which requires Inspectors General in agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor to keep the Chief Inspector General informed concerning fraud, abuses, and deficiencies related to programs and operations administered or financed by the state agency; recommend corrective action concerning fraud, abuses, and deficiencies; and report on the progress made in implementing corrective action;
- Reviewed 86 personnel actions pursuant to section 20.055(3)(b), F.S., which requires Inspectors General in agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor to hire or remove personnel in consultation with the Chief Inspector General, but independently of their agency;



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- Received 192 whistle-blower determinations made by agency Inspectors General for compliance with sections 112.3187-112.31895, F.S., Florida's Whistle-blower's Act, resulting in 27 approved whistle-blower designations by state agency Inspectors General, 1 approved whistle-blower designation by a State University, and 2 approved whistle-blower designations by a Commission;
- Completed or assisted with 5 investigations, reviews, and audits;
- Provided oversight for 9 whistle-blower investigations completed by agency Inspectors General and a University, including reviews of final investigative reports and issuance of 8 final reports to mandatory recipients in compliance with statutes;
- Issued 2 subpoenas at the request of 2 Offices of Inspector General pursuant to section 14.32(5), Florida Statutes;
- Completed nationwide searches for Inspector General candidates to fill existing vacancies, resulting in the appointment of Inspectors General for 1) the Department of Transportation, 2) the Department of Management Services, and 3) the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.
- Served as the Governor's designee for financial emergencies pursuant to Chapter 218, F.S.;
- Contacted 61 local governmental entities to gather information for use in determining their financial emergency status in accordance with the provisions of section 218.503, F.S.;
- Served as a liaison between the Executive Office of the Governor and external auditors and investigators; and,
- Provided training on Florida's Whistle-blower's Act to members of the Inspectors General community.



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INTRODUCTION



The Chief Inspector General has a broad range of responsibilities outlined in sections 14.32 and 20.055, F.S. These responsibilities include: carrying out activities designed to deter, detect, prevent, and eradicate fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, and misconduct in government; initiating, supervising, and coordinating investigations; coordinating complaint handling activities with agencies; coordinating activities of Florida's Whistle-blower's Act and maintaining the Whistle-blower's Hotline; conducting, directing, and supervising audit activities; monitoring activities of agency Inspectors General; issuing and serving subpoenas; and conducting special investigations and management reviews at the request of the Governor. The Chief Inspector General is also responsible for appointing and removing Inspectors General in agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor. In addition, when a local governmental entity meets statutory conditions specified in section 218.503(1), F.S., the Governor has delegated responsibilities described within sections 218.50–218.504, F.S., *Local Governmental Entity and District School Board Financial Emergencies*, to the Chief Inspector General.

Our mission is to assist the Executive Office of the Governor in the accomplishment of its objectives by the conduct, supervision, and coordination of accountability activities in order to enhance public trust in government. During the past year, the Office of the Chief Inspector General worked diligently to meet statutory mandates and to ensure standards of excellence were applied consistently across state agencies by agency Inspectors General. This report details our efforts toward achieving our mission.

INDEPENDENCE

According to sections 14.32(4) and 20.055(3), F.S., the Chief Inspector General serves as the Inspector General for the Executive Office of the Governor and reports directly to the Governor to ensure audits, investigations, and other activities are performed with competence and independence, and to ensure findings and conclusions are developed in accordance with applicable professional standards. Additionally, by statute, the Chief Inspector General is not subject to supervision by any other employee except the Governor, and the agency head or staff shall not prevent or prohibit the Chief Inspector General from initiating, carrying out, or completing any audit or investigation.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND CODE OF ETHICS

Pursuant to section 20.055(2)(j), F.S., the Office of the Chief Inspector General complies with the *Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General* as



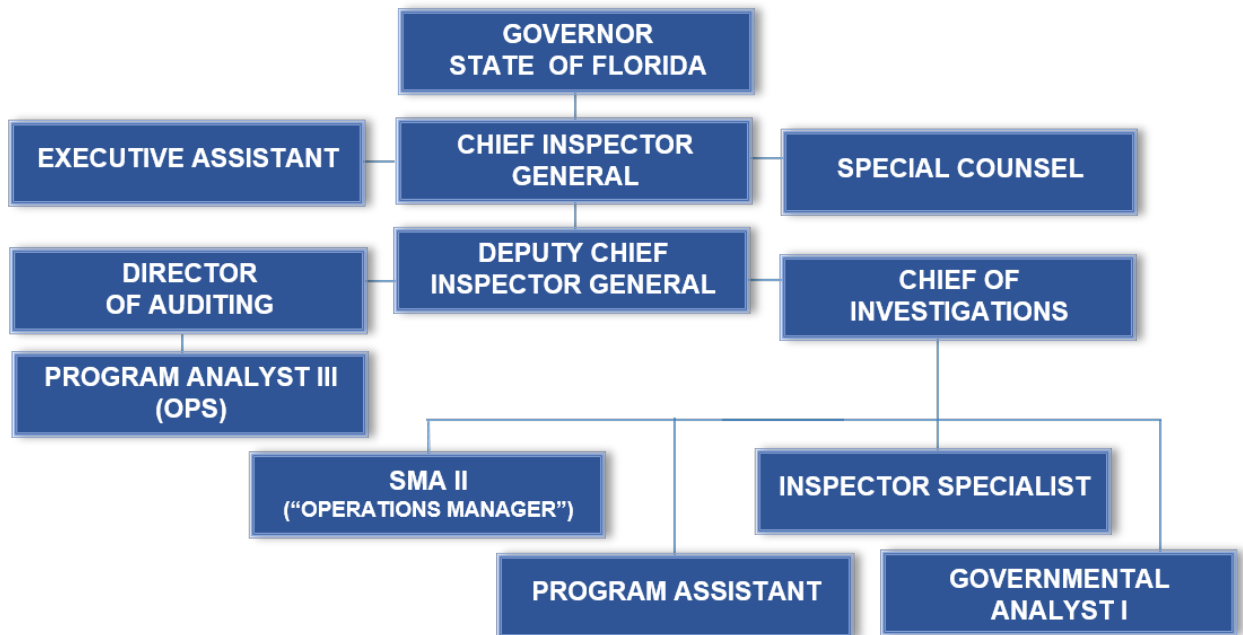
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published and revised by the Association of Inspectors General. Staff members abide by the Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees as codified in sections 112.311-112.326, F.S., and the Executive Office of the Governor's Code of Ethics. Internal audits are conducted in accordance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* and the *Code of Ethics* published by The Institute of Internal Auditors, Inc.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

At the end of fiscal year 2018-2019, the Office of the Chief Inspector General staff included the Chief Inspector General, the Deputy Chief Inspector General, the Director of Auditing, the Chief of Investigations, Special Counsel, one Senior Management Analyst II, a Governmental Analyst, an Executive Assistant, an Inspector Specialist, a Program Assistant, and an Other Personal Services (OPS) Program Analyst III.

Office Organizational Chart



As of June 30, 2019



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Professional Certifications

Members of the Office of the Chief Inspector General hold the following professional certifications:¹

- Certified Inspector General (2)
- Certified Inspector General Investigator (2)
- Certified Financial Crimes Investigator (1)
- Certified Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Investigator (2)
- Certified Accreditation Manager (3)
- Notary Public (4)
- Certified Project Manager (1)
- Florida Certified Contract Manager (2)

Professional Organization Affiliations

Members of the Office of the Chief Inspector General are affiliated with the following professional organizations:²

- National Association of Inspectors General (3)
- Florida Chapter of the Association of Inspectors General (4)
- The Institute of Internal Auditors, Inc. (2)
- International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (1)
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (1)
- Florida Bar (1)
- Association of Government Accountants (1)



CHIEF INSPECTOR GENERAL PROJECTS

During the fiscal year, the Office of the Chief Inspector General participated in the following activities:

Review of North Broward Hospital District

In January 2016, the Office of the Chief Inspector General initiated a review of the North Broward Hospital District (Broward Health). Broward Health is a special taxing district governed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners, each appointed by the Governor to a four-year term. The Board exercises budgetary authority, selects senior

¹ As of June 30, 2019.

² As of June 30, 2019.



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executive management, participates in fiscal management, provides taxing authority, and determines the scope of services to be provided to the community.

City of Opa-Locka Financial Emergency Board

In June 2016, the Governor issued Executive Order Number 16-135, declaring the City of Opa-Locka in a state of financial emergency pursuant to section 218.503, F.S. The Governor established a Financial Emergency Board to oversee the activities of the City of Opa-Locka until their financial emergency is resolved and named the Chief Inspector General as the Governor's designee for carrying out the Executive Order.

Accreditation

The Office of the Chief Inspector General's investigative function is currently accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. (Commission). During the fiscal year, the Office of the Chief Inspector General and agency Inspectors General, in collaboration with the Commission, continued efforts to enhance compliance with the *Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General* as published and revised by the Association of Inspectors General through the advancement and support of the Office of Inspector General accreditation program.

The following Offices of Inspector General earned or retained accredited status from the Commission during the fiscal year: the Department of Children and Families Office of Inspector General, the Department of Management Services Office of Inspector General, the Department of State Office of Inspector General, the Department of Corrections Office of Inspector General, the Department of Environmental Protection Office of Inspector General, the Department of Transportation Office of Inspector General, the Department of Financial Services Office of Inspector General, the Lee County Clerk of the Circuit Court Office of Inspector General, the Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court Office of the Inspector General, the School District of Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General, the Miami-Dade County Office of Inspector General, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of Inspector General, the Department of Economic Opportunity Office of Inspector General, the Department of Revenue Office of Inspector General, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Office of Inspector General.

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY

Summary of Investigative Activity

Investigations often begin with allegations received by telephone, letter, fax, website, or e-mail. Additionally, in accordance with sections 112.3187 – 112.31895, F.S., Florida's Whistle-blower's Act, the Office of the Chief Inspector General maintains





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a statewide Whistle-blower's Hotline where employees of the state or contract providers may disclose allegations of gross mismanagement, gross waste of public funds, malfeasance, misfeasance, gross neglect of duty, or other activities covered by the Act.

During fiscal year 2018-2019, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received 1,935 complaints or requests for assistance from various sources as follows:

Complaints or Requests by Source

Source	Number
Website	203
Referral Other	131
Mail	407
Phone	526
WB Hotline	312
Referral IG	140
Email	188
Fax	19
Walk-in	9
Total	1,935

The Office of the Chief Inspector General received, reviewed, and processed 1,857 pieces of additional information related to existing correspondences during the fiscal year as follows:

Additional Information by Source

Source	Number
Email	776
Mail	220
Website	48
Referral IG	436
Fax	21
Referral Other	105
Phone	248
WB Hotline	0
Walk-in	3
Total	1,857

All complaints and requests for assistance were documented in the Office of the Chief Inspector General database. Overall, 1,935 complaints and requests were opened, and 1,920 complaints and requests were closed during the fiscal year as follows:



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**Summary of Complaint Activity by Quarter
Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Number of Complaints and Requests Opened	516	348	482	589	1,935
Number of Complaints and Requests Closed	500	373	461	586	1,920
Number of Whistle-blower Hotline Calls Received	95	59	72	87	313
Number of Complaints Referred to Other Entities	311	221	296	321	1,149

Investigative Highlights

The following case summaries provide an overview of investigations, reviews, or activities in which the Office of the Chief Inspector General played a role.



Department of Corrections/Department of Management Services
CIG Correspondence # 2017-01-10-0010

On January 1, 2017, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received a complaint regarding the Lake City Correctional Facility. In January 2017, the Office of the Chief Inspector General initiated an administrative review of the pricing and award of the operations contract associated with the privately contracted Lake City Correctional Facility. The Lake City Correctional Facility was established in 1997 to house male youthful offender inmates. For the period pertinent to the review, Lake City Correctional Facility was operated by the Corrections Corporation of America under contract with the Florida Department of Management Services. Our review identified no general or specific employee misconduct or mismanagement. Additionally, no evidence was presented or disclosed during the course of this review that indicated a violation of any federal, state, or local law, rule, or regulation was committed by an employee or agent of an agency related to the Lake City Correctional Facility contract or that any act of gross mismanagement, malfeasance, misfeasance, or gross waste of public funds was committed by an employee or agent of an agency in preparing, executing, monitoring, or renewing the Lake City Correctional Facility contract. Also, our analysis of the overall financial impact of the contract (through June 30, 2018) did not indicate the Lake City Correctional Facility contract resulted in overspending, overpayments, or improper escalations. The final report was issued by the Office of the Chief Inspector General on July 13, 2018.

Department of Health (DOH)
CIG Case #2018-03-12-0004

On March 28, 2018, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received complaint information from the Department of Health's Office of Inspector General for handling as



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deemed appropriate in which a former Department of Health employee expressed concerns about her former employment with the Department of Health. The Office of the Chief Inspector General attempted via email and telephone to contact the former employee requesting the former employee to provide a sworn, recorded interview and to provide copies of supporting documentation listed within the former employee's written complaint information. However, the former employee did not agree to participate in a sworn recorded interview with the Office of the Chief Inspector General and did not provide any supporting documentation relating to the former employee's concerns. The Office of the Chief Inspector General reviewed applicable governing directives pertaining to the former employee's concerns and conducted other preliminary investigative steps. The Office of the Chief Inspector General ultimately determined that further investigative activity was not warranted due to lack of sufficient complaint details and insufficient supporting evidence regarding the concerns expressed by the former employee. The closing memorandum was completed by the Office of the Chief Inspector General on August 8, 2018.

Department of State (DOS)

CIG Case #2018-06-14-0006 and #2018-06-12-0009

On June 12 and June 14, 2018, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received a request for investigative assistance from the Department of State Office of Inspector General and initiated an investigation pursuant to sections 14.32 and 20.055, Florida Statutes, regarding potential misconduct by an employee of the Department of State. It was alleged that an employee of the Department of State engaged in unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. It was also alleged that the same employee of the Department of State misused his position by altering or enhancing other employees' resumes to qualify them for promotional opportunities at the Department of State. The allegations concerned inappropriate behavior and alteration or enhancement of a document. The Office of the Chief Inspector General determined the allegations were substantiated. The final report was issued by the Office of the Chief Inspector General on December 3, 2018.

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC)

CIG Case # 2018-11-20-0005

On November 20, 2018, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received a request for investigative assistance from the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's Inspector General to conduct an external investigation of a Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission sworn law enforcement officer. It was alleged that the sworn law enforcement officer may have manipulated a witness statement in order to support an investigative finding. During the initial phase of the investigation, the Office of the Chief Inspector General determined that the Law Enforcement Officers' and Correctional Officers' Bill of Rights requires that the employing agency conduct an



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internal investigation of alleged policy violations by their sworn officers when the investigation could result in disciplinary action. Following discussion with the Inspector General for the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Office of the Chief Inspector General issued a closing memorandum on December 17, 2019.

Summary of Whistle-blower Activity

During the fiscal year, the Office of the Chief Inspector General played a vital role in processing requests for whistle-blower protection in accordance with Florida's Whistle-blower's Act. The Office of the Chief Inspector General ensured a consistent assessment process for applying statutory requirements by agency Inspectors General and provided coordination and oversight of investigative activities involving the most serious allegations.



Each of the 1,935 complaints and requests for assistance received by the Office of the Chief Inspector General was screened for compliance with the provisions of the Act. A total of 192 complaints warranted a more in-depth review resulting in 27 approved whistle-blower designations by state agency Inspectors General, 1 approved whistle-blower designation by a State University, and 2 approved whistle-blower designations by a Commission.

During the 2018-2019 fiscal year, agency Inspectors General closed 9 whistle-blower investigations. Twenty-one whistle-blower investigations remain ongoing. The Office of the Chief Inspector General monitored each case for completion and compliance with statutory timeframes and granted extensions for good cause when circumstances warranted, in accordance with statutory requirements. In addition, 8 final investigative reports were submitted to and independently reviewed by the Office of the Chief Inspector General for investigative sufficiency prior to final release. Whistle-blower cases that produced evidence of criminal violations were referred, as required by statute, to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Whistle-blower Case Highlights

The following case summaries represent examples of the types of investigations conducted in accordance with Florida Whistle-blower's Act.



Whistle-blower Case Summary #1

CIG Correspondence #2018-02-06-0004

On February 23, 2018, the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conversation Commission Office of Inspector General initiated a Whistle-blower investigation to address multiple allegations. The allegations included concerns about retaliation and the conduct of



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Florida Fish & Wildlife Conversation Commission staff. The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conversation Commission Office of Inspector General determined that the allegations were either not sustained or unfounded, or there was insufficient evidence to prove or disprove the allegation.

Whistle-blower Case Summary #2

CIG Correspondence # 2015-09-02-0010

On November 9, 2015, the Department of Corrections Office of Inspector General initiated a Whistle-blower investigation to address allegations of improper treatment of inmates assigned to the inpatient unit at the Florida Women's Reception Center. The Department of Corrections Office of Inspector General determined that the allegations were unfounded.

Whistle-blower Case Summary #3

CIG Correspondence # 2018-04-02-0003

On April 19, 2018, the Department of Children and Families Office of Inspector General initiated a Whistle-blower investigation to address allegations involving the falsification of documents by Department of Children and Families staff. The Department of Children and Families Office of Inspector General determined that the information obtained during the investigation either did not support or did not support or refute the complainant's allegations. The Department and Children and Families Office of Inspector General recommended that management remind staff that activities in the Florida Safe Families Network system must be documented accurately to ensure case documentation reflects the correct date, time, and circumstances of each activity conducted. The Department and Children and Families Office of Inspector General also recommended that management remind staff of the requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act; specifically, that all hours worked must be documented accurately.

Summary of Subpoena Activity

During the fiscal year, in accordance with section 14.32(5), F.S., the Office of the Chief Inspector General issued 2 subpoenas at the request of 2 Offices of Inspector General. The details of each are highlighted below.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

CIG Correspondence # 2018-11-08-0005

On November 8, 2018, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received a request from the Department of Children and Families Office of Inspector General to issue and serve a subpoena for time and payroll records of a Department of Children and Families employee, to include copies of the employee's work schedule, time cards, sign in/sign out sheets, and any other documentation that reflected the employee's time of arrival to



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work and time of departure from work at a private company. Additionally, Department of Children and Families Office of Inspector General also requested that the subpoena request include the employee's total hours worked at the private company for October 8, 2017 and October 12, 2017. The Office of the Chief Inspector General issued the subpoena on November 14, 2018 and received the requested information on November 26, 2018.

Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC)
CIG Correspondence # 2019-02-13-0009

On February 13, 2019, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received a request from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation Office of Inspector General to issue and serve a subpoena for the bank statements for a program applicant's (Florida's Hardest Hit Fund) JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., checking and savings accounts for February 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018. The Florida Housing Finance Corporation Office of Inspector General requested the subpoenaed information in order to compare it to the information that the program applicant provided to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for assistance. The Office of the Chief Inspector General issued the subpoena on February 19, 2019 and received the information on March 25 and 29, 2019.

AUDIT ACTIVITY

In accordance with sections 14.32 and 20.055, F.S., the Office of the Chief Inspector General is responsible for carrying out auditing duties and reviewing, evaluating, and monitoring the policies, practices, and operations of the Executive Office of the Governor. In addition, section 20.055(2), F.S., includes a description of activities related to the development, assessment, and validation of performance measures. These activities are integrated into the audit process, if applicable. During fiscal year 2018-2019, the Office of the Chief Inspector General conducted an internal audit, provided audit assistance to other agency Inspectors General, and monitored the status of internal and external corrective actions recommended in audits as follows:

Internal Audit Activities

Notary Section - Audit Report Number A-18/19-002

Pursuant to section 14.32, F.S., and the Office of the Chief Inspector General's fiscal year 2018-19 Audit Plan, the Office of the Chief Inspector General initiated an audit of the Executive Office of the Governor's Notary Section (Notary Section). The audit objectives were to examine the efficiency and effectiveness of the Notary Section's processes and procedures for investigating complaints of notary misconduct and providing educational materials and assistance to Florida's notaries public. The scope of



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the audit included activities conducted during the Notary Section’s fiscal year 2017-2018. The audit disclosed that enhancements were needed to strengthen the Notary Section’s procedures and processes, reduce risks, and enhance controls over notary commissions. The specific findings and recommendations are outlined in the report.

Follow-up and Liaison Activities

During fiscal year 2018-2019, the Office of the Chief Inspector General conducted follow-ups of the status of corrective actions in Office of the Chief Inspector General report numbers 2016-01 and A-17/18-001. Additionally, and in accordance with section 20.055(2), F.S., staff members of the Office of the Chief Inspector General served as liaison between the Executive Office of the Governor and the Florida Auditor General on projects related to the Executive Office of the Governor. During fiscal year 2018-2019, the Office of the Chief Inspector General conducted a follow-up of the status of corrective actions recommended in Florida Auditor General report number 2017-213.

Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Section 20.055(5)(i), F.S., requires that annual and long-term audit plans be developed based on the findings of periodic risk assessments. Based on the results of a risk assessment, top priorities for audits, reviews and special projects were identified and the audit plan for fiscal year 2019-2020 was developed and approved by the Governor. The 2,080 staff hours available for audits and audit activities have been allocated as follows:

Allocation of Staff Hours for Fiscal Year 2019-2020		
Hours Available:	52 weeks x 40 hours per week x 1 position (1 Full-time Equivalent (FTE).	100%
Estimated Distribution of Hours		
Internal Audits, Enterprise Projects and Other Assurance Activities	Hours available for internal audits, enterprise-wide audits, consulting services, and management reviews. (See Table 2)	40%
Audit Follow-up	As required in Section 20.055(6)(h), F.S. and Standard 2500, IIA Standards.	5%
Liaison Activities to Coordinate External Audits	As required by Section 20.055(2)(g), F.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability’s Audits • Auditor General’s Statewide Financial, Operational and Federal Awards Audits • Auditor General’s Quality Assurance Reviews at Selected Agency OIGs. 	5%
Technical Assistance	Hours for assisting other IGs on projects of interest to the CIG.	15%



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Financial Emergency Activities	Hours for monitoring and liaison activities associated with the Financial Emergencies Act.	15%
Recurring Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Assessment and Annual Report • Performance Measure Review • Preparation of Schedule IX 	5%
Indirect Hours	Hours for administrative activities including training, leave, state holidays.	15%
% of Total Hours		100%

Of the available staff hours for fiscal year 2019-2020, the Office of the Chief Inspector General estimates that it will initiate the following assurance activities:

Planned Projects		
Category	Description	Hours
Internal Audits	Executive Office of the Governor – (1) Office of Citizens’ Services of the Executive Office of the Governor. The scope of this project will be determined during the planning phase of the engagement. (2) Office of Policy and Budget’s System Design (Legislative Appropriations System/Planning and Budgeting Subsystem)	(1) = 416 (2) = 416
Enterprise Projects	Enterprise Projects will be selected based on the needs of the agencies.	As needed
Management Requests or Other Assurance Activities	A portion of our planned engagements has been reserved for management requests that may occur during the fiscal year. These requests may be for assurance or consulting services.	As needed
Total Hours		832

Long-Term Audit Plans for Fiscal Years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

For fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, the Office of the Chief Inspector General plans to allocate direct hours each year to audit activities that will include the following activities:

- Conducting assurance engagements of the Executive Office of the Governor’s Administration Office and Information Systems, enterprise audits, other assurance activities, audit follow-up and liaison activities to coordinate external audits;
- Monitoring monitor financial emergency activities;
- Providing technical assistance to agency Inspectors General; and,
- Performing other related duties.

The long-term audit plans are subject to change based on the results of the periodic risk assessments conducted in accordance with section 20.055, F.S. The scope of these



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projects will be determined during the planning phase of these engagements. These plans are also subject to unexpected investigative activity and requests made by the Governor in accordance with section 14.32(2)(k), F.S.

FINANCIAL EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

Sections 218.50–218.504, F.S., *Local Governmental Entity and District School Board Financial Emergencies*, describes the responsibilities delegated to the Office of the Chief Inspector General by the Governor for determining if state assistance is needed when a local governmental entity meets one or more of the conditions specified in section 218.503(1), F.S. The Office of the Chief Inspector General collaborates with representatives from the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Financial Services, the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, the Auditor General, and the Executive Office of the Governor’s Legal Office and Office of Policy and Budget in carrying out these responsibilities.

Local Governmental Entities in Financial Emergency Status

There are over 2100 local governmental entities³ in Florida. As of June 30, 2019, there were 23 entities in financial emergency status as defined in section 218.503(3), F.S. These local governmental entities are listed in the following table:

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES IN FINANCIAL EMERGENCY STATUS	
• Crossings at Fleming Island Community Development District (CDD)	
• City of Gretna	• City of Hampton
• City of Hawthorne	• City of Opa-Locka
• City of Pahokee	• Eastpoint Sewer and Water District
• City of Webster	• Fallschase CDD
• Hamilton CDD	• Heritage Harbor CDD
• Heritage Isles CDD	• Stoneybrook CDD
• Suwannee Valley Transit Authority	• Suwannee Water and Sewer District
• Town of Caryville	• Town of Eatonville
• Town of Noma	• Town of Wausau
• Town of Westville	• Viera East CDD
• Leon County Educational Facilities Authority	• Ocean Highway and Port Authority of Nassau County

During fiscal year 2018-2019, the Office of the Chief Inspector General received notices from the Auditor General or from local governmental entities that 35 local governmental

³ Local governmental entities, as defined in section 218.502, F.S., are counties [67], municipalities [412], and special districts [1747].



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entities met one or more of the conditions of financial emergency specified in section 218.503(1), F.S. The Office of the Chief Inspector General requested additional information from 61 entities for use in determining the entities' financial emergency status. The Office of the Chief Inspector General also monitored the financial condition of various local governmental entities based on concerns discovered through Joint Legislative Auditing Committee meetings, news articles, correspondence from citizens, and questions from state and local government officials. During fiscal year 2018-2019, no new entities were declared to be in a state of financial emergency as defined in section 218.503(3), F.S.; however, 7 local governmental entities were released from financial emergency status as follows:

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL EMERGENCY STATUS	
• City of South Bay	Released 7/5/18
• Indian Creek Village	Released 11/15/18
• City of Paxton	Released 11/15/18
• Reserve CDD	Released 11/15/18
• St. Lucie West Services District	Released 11/15/18
• Disston Island Conservancy District	Released 11/15/18
• St. John's Improvement District (formerly known as St. John's Water Control District)	Released 12/7/18

CONCLUSION

The members of the Office of the Chief Inspector General did an outstanding job in FY 2018-2019 providing a central point for the coordination of activities that promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency in state government. It is an honor and privilege to serve with these individuals and to provide a report on the accomplishments of the Office of the Chief Inspector General for fiscal year 2018-2019.



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http://www.flgov.com/inspector_general