

What is the OIG?

The Office of the Inspector General is an independent oversight office established by an Act of Congress. This Act provides the Inspector General with several statutory responsibilities:

- Conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to Smithsonian programs and operations
- Promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness at the Smithsonian
- Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse at the Smithsonian
- Review and make recommendations regarding existing and proposed legislation and regulations relating to the Smithsonian
- Keep the Board of Regents and the Congress fully and currently informed of problems at the Institution.

Contact the OIG

ONLINE:
www.si.edu/oig

PHONE:
(202) 633-7050

FAX:
(202) 633-7079

MAIL (US Postal Service Only):
Office of the Inspector General
Smithsonian Institution
MRC 524
PO Box 37012
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012

OIG Confidential Hotlines

Contact the OIG to report any fraud, waste or abuse at the Smithsonian.

Complaints may be made anonymously and the OIG will keep the identity of the complainant confidential to the extent permitted by law.

PHONE:
(202) 252-0321

EMAIL:
OIGHotline@oig.si.edu



Smithsonian Institution

Office of the Inspector General
(OIG)

Understanding the OIG Investigative Process



IG Authority

Under the Inspector General Act, the Inspector General is authorized to:

- Conduct audits and investigations
- Have access to all records, materials, and information related to the Smithsonian
- Issue subpoenas for information outside of the Smithsonian
- Take sworn statements
- Work with the Department of Justice to prosecute criminal violations

Employee and Management Responsibilities

- To promptly report to the OIG
 - Gross fraud, waste, or abuse
 - Significant misconduct
 - Substantial and specific danger to public health or safety
- Must fully cooperate with the OIG
- Must not forbid or discourage others from providing information to the OIG

Why I Should Get Involved

It is the responsibility and duty of all employees to help prevent fraud, waste, and abuse. If left unabated, fraud/ waste/abuse consume resources and damage the reputation of the Smithsonian Institution.

Types of Complaints We Investigate

The OIG investigates complaints regarding:

- Fraud (e.g. contract, procurement, workers comp)
- Significant misconduct
- Conflict of interest
- Serious Collection issues (e.g. theft, significant mishandling)
- Improper use of SI resources/property
- Integrity violations and unethical conduct
- Other violations of law, regulation or policy

NOTE: This list is not all inclusive but represents the primary types of complaints received in our office.

When to Contact the OIG

- You suspect fraud, waste, or abuse (gross mismanagement)
- You suspect violations of law (e.g. theft, forgery)
- You suspect serious violations of SI policy
- You suspect violations of the Standards of Conduct

Employee Protections

The IG will not disclose, without consent, the identity of an employee who reports fraud, waste, and abuse, except in rare instances when the IG determines that disclosure is unavoidable.

Reprisal against any persons providing information to the OIG is a prohibited personnel practice and punishable.

How Does the OIG Investigative Process Work?

The OIG investigates allegations of wrongdoing in administrative, civil and criminal matters. The subject of an OIG investigation can be any person or entity involved in alleged wrongdoing affecting Smithsonian programs or operations.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the OIG will present any criminal wrongdoing to the Department of Justice for prosecution and will present any administrative misconduct to management for possible disciplinary action.