



Office of the Inspector General Department of Defense

Mission/Vision/Values (Revised June 28, 2003)

Mission Statement

The Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense was established by Congress as one of the “independent and objective units [within listed ‘establishments’] to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of those establishments,” including the Department of Defense.¹ As the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense in all Inspector General matters,² the Inspector General serves as an extension of “the eyes, ears, and conscience”³ of the Secretary. In support of the mission of the Department of Defense, the Office of the Inspector General endeavors to:

- “Provide leadership...to promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness”;⁴
- Prevent and detect “fraud, waste, and abuse”;⁵
- “Provide policy direction for audits and investigations”;⁶
- “Provide a means for keeping the [Secretary of Defense] and the Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies”;⁷ and
- “Give particular regard to the activities of the internal audit, inspection, and investigative units of the military departments with a view toward avoiding duplication and insuring effective coordination and cooperation.”⁸

Vision Statement

One professional team of auditors, inspectors, and investigators, inspiring by paradigm a culture of integrity, accountability, and “intelligent risk-taking” throughout the Department of Defense.⁹

Core Values

- Accountability¹⁰
- Integrity & Efficiency¹¹

Endnotes

¹ Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Sections 2(1) (“to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the establishments listed in section 11(2)”) & 11(2) (“the term ‘establishment’ means the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense. . .”).

² *See* Inspector General Act, as amended, Section (8)(c)(1) (“the Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall . . . be the principal policy advisor to the Secretary of Defense for matters relating to the prevention and detection of fraud, waste, and abuse in the programs and operations of the Department”).

³ Army Regulation 20-1, *Inspector General Activities and Procedures* 5 (Department of the Army 2002).

⁴ Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Section 2(2)(A).

⁵ Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Section 8(c)(1); *ibid* at 2(2)(B).

⁶ Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Section 8(c)(3).

⁷ Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Section 2(3); *ibid* at 4(a)(5).

⁸ Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Section 8(c)(9).

⁹ *See* remarks by the President at U.S. Naval Academy Commencement, May 25, 2001; comments by Secretary Rumsfeld, DoD News Briefing – Secretary Rumsfeld and Gen. Myers, December 27, 2001; *see also* Association of Inspectors General, *Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General*, at 1 (May 2001) (“the purpose of the Association [of Inspectors General] is to: foster and promote public accountability and integrity in the general areas of the prevention, examination, investigation, audit, detection, elimination and prosecution of fraud, waste and abuse. . .”).

¹⁰ *See* U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 9 (“a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time”).

¹¹ Executive Order 12805 of May 11, 1992 (“Integrity and Efficiency in Federal Programs”).