



NASA OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

OFFICE OF AUDITS

SUITE 8U71, 300 E ST SW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546-0001

October 30, 2019

TO: Ron Brade
Acting Associate Administrator for Mission Support Directorate

SUBJECT: Memorandum, *Fiscal Year 2019 Risk Assessment of NASA's Charge Card Programs*
(ML-20-001; S-19-001-00)

We are providing this memorandum to inform the Agency of the results of our fiscal year 2019 risk assessment of NASA's charge card programs. The Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 (Pub. L. No. 112-194, 2012) requires Inspectors General to conduct periodic assessments of agency purchase (including convenience checks) and travel card programs to analyze risk of illegal, improper, or erroneous transactions. We use the results of this risk assessment to determine the scope, frequency, and number of audits we need to conduct of NASA's charge card programs.

We conducted our risk assessment based on fiscal year 2018 purchase and travel card data and information. Specifically, we reviewed the Agency's compliance with requirements of the Act; evaluated trends in statistical information for purchase and travel cards; and reviewed each program's annual narrative description for significant changes affecting the program. Additionally, we performed data analytics on charge card transactions and inquired of our Office of Investigations concerning open cases related to purchase and travel cards. We also examined the results of NASA management, Government Accountability Office, and NASA Office of Inspector General periodic reviews and reports related to the purchase and travel programs.

Overall, we concluded that the risk of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments through NASA's purchase and travel card programs were moderate and low, respectively. As a result, we do not plan on conducting an audit of the Agency's charge card programs at this time. This determination does not mean that NASA's purchase and travel card programs are free of illegal, improper, or erroneous use, or free of internal control deficiencies. An audit of the charge card programs may identify issues not previously noted in the risk assessment. As such, we encourage NASA management to continue to

conduct prudent oversight over its charge card programs and to ensure that internal controls are in place and implemented in order to safeguard taxpayers funds. We will continue to monitor the Agency's progress addressing our recommendations in our most recent report on NASA's charge card programs, *Review of NASA's Purchase and Travel Charge Card Programs* (IG-18-014, February 28, 2018).

We appreciate the courtesies and cooperation extended to us during this assessment. If you have questions, please contact Mark Jenson, Financial Management Director, at mark.jenson@nasa.gov , or Regina Dull, Project Manager, at regina.dull@nasa.gov.



Kimberly F. Benoit
Assistant Inspector General for Audits

cc: Jeff DeWit
Chief Financial Officer

Monica Manning
Assistant Administrator for Procurement

Anita Harrell
Executive Director, NASA Shared Services Center