



At a Glance

Catalyst for Improving the Environment

Why We Did This Review

This information was collected in support of an Agency-wide evaluation of impediments to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) audits and evaluations.

Background

We sponsored an Agency-wide survey to assess EPA employees' perceptions of their relationships with OIG staff with regard to access to personnel and information.

For further information, contact our Office of Congressional, Public Affairs and Management at (202) 566-2391.

To view the full report, click on the following link:
www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2009/20090113-09-P-0079.pdf

Office of Inspector General Access Survey Results

What We Found

The results of our survey disclosed significant lack of knowledge about the Agency's policies with regard to interaction with the OIG, and numerous requests for training in this area by survey respondents. Our analysis showed that 83 percent of respondents were either not aware, or did not know, of any policy or procedures governing interaction with the OIG. Further, 18 percent of respondents did not believe that they can provide documentation or written responses to the OIG without permission from a supervisor. An additional 34 percent of the respondents did not know if this is allowed.

There were also some troubling perceptions among the Agency staff about management's attitudes toward staff who talked to OIG staff without permission. Survey results showed that 45 percent of respondents either agreed or did not know whether they may face retribution if they provided information or documentation in response to an OIG request without the approval from their program manager or supervisor.

This is an interim report for information only and does not represent any final conclusions or recommendations by the OIG.