



At a Glance

The CSB's Fiscal Year 2026 Top Management Challenges

What Are Management Challenges?

The Reports Consolidation Act of 2000 requires each inspector general to prepare an annual statement summarizing what the inspector general considers to be “the most serious management and performance challenges facing the agency” and to briefly assess the agency’s progress in addressing those challenges.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General, which provides oversight for the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, has identified two management challenges facing the CSB in fiscal year 2026: operating effectively without a full board and improving information security.

What We Found

For fiscal year 2026, we identified two management challenges facing the CSB. We consider these to be the CSB’s greatest vulnerabilities to waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement and the most significant barriers to accomplishing the CSB’s mission.

1. Operating effectively without a full board

As of November 2025, the CSB’s governing board was operating at 40 percent capacity, with only two confirmed members. The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 established that the CSB’s board shall consist of five board members, including a chairperson, who are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. The board is responsible for major budgeting decisions, strategic planning and direction, general oversight of the CSB, and approval of investigation reports and studies. The CSB is challenged in meeting its mission to “drive chemical safety excellence through independent investigations to protect communities, workers, and the environment” while operating without a full board.

2. Improving information security

EPA OIG Report No. [25-P-0037](#), *Audit of the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board’s Compliance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 for Fiscal Year 2024*, dated June 17, 2025, assessed the CSB’s information security program to be at a maturity of Level 2, Defined. This means that policies, procedures, and strategies are formalized and documented but not consistently implemented. Additionally, as of June 2025, the CSB’s chief information officer position is vacant, which could hinder the CSB’s capacity to improve its information security program.

This report addresses the three CSB goals:

- Prevent recurrence of significant chemical incidents.
- Advocate safety and achieve change.
- Create and maintain an engaged, high-performing workforce.

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