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Contact the IC IG

How to Report Waste, Fraud, Abuse or Misconduct

To report waste, fraud, abuse, or misconduct in the Intelligence Community, there are three ways to contact us:

Phone: 703-482-1300
Fax: 703-482-3254

Mail: Office of the IC IG
Attn: Investigations Division
Washington D.C. 20511

What is Reportable?

The IC IG is authorized to investigate complaints or information concerning allegations of a violation of law, rule, regulation, waste, fraud, abuse of authority, or a substantial or specific danger to public health and safety [in connection with ODNI and/or IC intelligence programs and activities.](#)

Can I Be Punished for Contacting the IC IG?

Reprisal against an employee for making a complaint or disclosing information to the IC IG is prohibited. Those who believe they have been subjected to reprisal due to a complaint or disclosure, should contact the IC IG immediately. Protection from reprisal does not extend to an employee who makes a complaint or discloses information with knowledge that the complaint or information is false or with wilful disregard for its truth or falsity.

Who Will Handle this Allegation?

The IC IG reviews and assesses the report and determines if it should be handled by the IC IG or referred to another appropriate office. Issues may be reviewed internally or forwarded to another more appropriate office for resolution.

Can I Be Anonymous?

Yes you can report anonymously. However, it would help our investigation if we had someone to contact if we needed additional information. The IC IG will not disclose the identity of the complainant without their consent, unless the IC IG determines such disclosure is unavoidable in the course of carrying out its responsibilities to resolve the complaint. We encourage you to identify yourself in your report to allow for the IC IG to follow-up. However, you may submit a report anonymously.

To report anonymously, you may call the IC IG at **703-482-1300**.

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Office of Intelligence Community Inspector General

Who We Are

The Intelligence Community Inspector General was established pursuant to Section 405 of the [Intelligence Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2010](#), which amends the National Security Act of 1947. (Pub. L. No. 111-259, 124 Stat. 2709 (Oct. 7, 2010)).

The IC IG is responsible for conducting IC-wide audits, investigations, inspections, and reviews that identify and address systemic risks, vulnerabilities, and deficiencies that cut across IC agency missions, in order to positively impact IC-wide economies and efficiencies.

The Inspector General of the Intelligence Community is [J. Charles McCullough, III](#).

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Whistleblower Protection Act

The Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act, which went into effect Jan. 1, 1999, provides employees of the Intelligence Community (IC) the means to report to Congress complaints or information pertaining to "urgent concerns" (see below) without suffering reprisal.

This section provides a common starting point for determining whether a complaint or information pertains to the ICWPA and for pursuing the proper course of action.

In general, the ICWPA defines an "urgent concern" as:

- A serious or flagrant problem, abuse, violation of law or Executive Order, or deficiency relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity involving classified information, but does not include differences of opinion concerning public policy matters.
- A false statement to Congress, or a willful withholding from Congress, on an issue of material fact relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity.
- An action constituting reprisal or threat of reprisal in response to an employee reporting an urgent concern.

A whistleblower complaint that does not satisfy one of the above criteria may still prove a valid issue, but such issues are handled under provisions other than the ICWPA.

Agency OIGs must, in effect, make two determinations when fielding a whistleblower complaint to determine whether it is an ICWPA case. First, the complaint must meet one of the three above criteria. Second, the complaint must be deemed "credible," or substantiated by facts allowing an investigation to proceed.

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How to File a Whistleblower Complaint

Summary of Procedures for Reporting Urgent Concerns Pursuant to the ICWPA

- A. An IC employee, assignee, detailee, or contractor, who intends to report to Congress a complaint or information with respect to an urgent concern, may report such complaint or information to the Intelligence Community Inspector General by calling 703-482-1300.
- B. Not later than the end of the 14-calendar day period beginning on the date of receipt from an employee of a complaint or information under subparagraph (A), the IC IG shall determine whether the complaint or information appears credible. If the IC IG determines that the complaint or information appears credible, then the IC IG shall, before the end of such period, transmit the complaint or information to the Director of National Intelligence. The IC IG may also forward comments on the complaint or information to the DNI.
- C. Upon receipt of a transmittal from the IC IG under subparagraph (B), the DNI shall, within 7 calendar days of such receipt, forward such transmittal to the congressional intelligence committees, together with any comments the DNI considers appropriate.
 - i. If the IC IG does not transmit, or does not transmit in accurate form, the complaint or information described in subparagraph (B), the employee may submit, in accordance with subparagraph (ii), the complaint or information to Congress by contacting either or both of the congressional intelligence committees directly.
 - ii. The employee may contact the congressional intelligence committees directly as described in clause (i) only if the employee –
 - a. before making such a contact, furnishes to the DNI, through the IC IG, a statement of the employee's complaint or information and notice of the employee's intent to contact the congressional intelligence committees directly; and
 - b. obtains and follows from the DNI, through the IC IG, direction on how to contact the congressional intelligence committees in accordance with necessary and appropriate security procedures.
 - iii. The ICWPA provides that a member or employee of one of the congressional intelligence committees who receives a complaint or information under clause (i) does so in that member's or employee's official capacity as a member or employee of that committee.
- D. The IC IG shall notify an employee who reports a complaint or information to the IC IG under these procedures of each action taken under these procedures with respect to the complaint or information. Such notice shall be provided not later than 3 days after any such action is taken.
- E. An action taken by the DNI or the IC IG under this paragraph shall not be subject to judicial review.
- F. In this summary:
 - i. The term "urgent concern" means any of the following:
 - a. A serious or flagrant problem, abuse, violation of law or Executive Order, or deficiency relating to the funding, administration, or operations of an intelligence activity involving classified information, but does not include differences of opinions concerning public policy matters.
 - b. A false statement to Congress, or a willful withholding from Congress, on an issue of material fact relating to the funding, administration, or operation of an intelligence activity.
 - c. An action, including a personnel action described in section 2302(a)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code, constituting reprisal or threat of reprisal prohibited under subsection (e)(3)(B) in response to an employee's reporting an urgent concern in accordance with this paragraph.
 - ii. The term 'congressional intelligence committees' means the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the United States House of Representatives and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the United States Senate.



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IC Inspectors General Forum

It is the mission of the Intelligence Community Inspectors General Forum to promote and further collaboration, cooperation and coordination among the Inspectors General of the Intelligence Community of the United States in furtherance of the following objectives:

- To support the IC IGs in the performance of audits, inspections, evaluations and investigations within their respective departments and agencies;
- To strengthen the collective role and effectiveness of IG's throughout the Intelligence Community and to enhance the value of IGs' activities in support of the National Intelligence Strategy; and
- To achieve optimal utilization of resources, to increase efficiency and to avoid duplication of effort among the Inspectors General of the Intelligence Community.

In furtherance of its mission, the IC IG Forum members meet quarterly to discuss issues of common concern, and to plan how to address them collaboratively.

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IC Inspector General

I. Charles McCullough III

I. Charles McCullough III was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the first Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) on November 7, 2011.

Mr. McCullough was most recently the Deputy Inspector General at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). Prior to coming to the ODNI, Mr. McCullough served as a member of the Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service for eight years as the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations at the National Security Agency/Central Security Service (NSA/CSS) Office of Inspector General (OIG), where he oversaw internal investigations involving fraud, ethics, intelligence oversight and whistleblower reprisal matters.

Prior to joining the NSA/CSS OIG, Mr. McCullough served as the Senior Counsel for Law Enforcement and Intelligence in the Office of the General Counsel of the U.S. Treasury Department, providing legal advice on enforcement and national security matters to senior officials at the Under Secretary and Assistant Secretary levels. He was the Treasury Department's lead counsel in the Enron and Moussaoui matters and played a key role in drafting the intelligence-sharing provisions of the USA PATRIOT ACT. While working at Treasury, he received a commendation for his service on detail to the White House, where he assisted with the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. McCullough came to the Treasury Department after a ten-year career in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), where he served as a Special Agent, Supervisory Special Agent, Associate Division Counsel, and Special Assistant United States Attorney. His work in the FBI included high-profile investigative and legal assignments in New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C. and West Virginia.

Mr. McCullough earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Kentucky, where he graduated with High Distinction and was the President of Pi Sigma Alpha, a National Academic Honorary Society. Mr. McCullough is a member in good standing of the Pennsylvania State Bar.

Mr. McCullough and his wife, Kathalyn, reside in Crofton, Maryland, with their two children.



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Office of Intelligence Community Inspector General

What We Do

The Office of the Intelligence Community Inspector General (IC IG) is an objective office, appropriately accountable to Congress, that initiates and conducts independent investigations, inspections, audits, and reviews of programs and activities within the responsibility and authority of the Director of National Intelligence; promotes economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration and implementation of such programs and activities; and prevents and detects fraud, waste, and abuse in such programs and activities. In addition, the IC IG provides leadership and coordination to other IC Inspectors General through the IC IG Forum, which was also established by the Intelligence Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2010.

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Core Values

As individuals and as an organization, the IC IG embraces:

- Integrity
- Collaboration
- Professionalism
- Excellence
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Leadership
- Diversity

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