



Office of the Inspector General

Joseph Ferguson, Inspector General
P.O. Box 2996
Chicago, IL
Phone: (312) 478-3623
Email: joeferguson2@chicagoinspectorgeneral.org

Central Purpose

- Prevent and root out fraud, corruption, waste, and mismanagement, while promoting effectiveness and efficiency in the City of Chicago
- Be a watchdog for the taxpayers of the City, conduct investigations, program reviews and audits

Key Facts

The Inspector General's Office (IGO) accomplishes its mission through investigations, audits, program reviews, inspections, evaluations, research, and data collection. Based on these activities, the IGO issues a variety of reports to the Mayor, responsible City management officials, the City Council and the public with findings and recommendations for corrective action and discipline. Investigative summary reports are directed to the Mayor and the heads of relevant City departments, who generally must respond to IGO recommendations within 30 days. Audits, inspections, and program reviews and evaluations are released to the public through publication on the IGO website. These various reports are additionally summarized in quarterly reports published on the IGO website.

The IGO Investigations Section conducts investigations into the performance of governmental officers, employees, departments, functions, programs and contractors, either in response to complaints or on the office's own initiative. Administrative cases generally involve violations of City rules, policies or procedures and/or waste or inefficiency. For administrative cases that uncover wrongdoing, the IGO produces summary reports – a thorough summary and analysis of the evidence and a recommendation for disciplinary or other corrective action. These reports are sent to the Office of the Mayor, the Corporation Counsel, and the City departments affected or involved in the investigation. If IGO investigations reveal misconduct that is not being addressed by a City policy or procedure, the IGO recommends policy changes to the Mayor and the relevant department either in the summary reports that detail the investigation or in separate policy-focused reports.



IGO cases that involve violations of local, state or federal criminal laws and are typically prosecuted by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, the U.S. Attorney's Office, or the Illinois Attorney General's Office, as appropriate. The IGO may issue summary reports recommending administrative action based on criminal conduct.

In 2007, the Inspector General's Office created an Audit Unit which, in conjunction with IGO Special Assistants, conducts independent and professional audits, reviews, and evaluations of the operations of City departments, programs, functions, and those doing business with the City. These engagements focus on the integrity, accountability, economy, efficiency and effectiveness of each audit/review subject.

In 2010, responsibility for monitoring of the City's hiring and employment under the Shakman Accord was transferred to the IGO. As a result, the IGO is now responsible for ensuring compliance with the law and court-imposed protocols for employment actions in most aspects of City government.

The office has continued to work extensively with federal law enforcement authorities on a variety of joint investigations, many of which have resulted in criminal indictments and convictions. The office also worked with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office on a variety of cases that resulted in state

criminal charges being brought against City employees and others and the recovery of taxpayer money wrongfully taken from the City.

This has been done without losing its primary focus – the investigation and identification of waste, fraud, and abuse of the City’s resources.

To better ensure that the activities of the IGO are more transparent and better understood by the City and its residents, the IGO has reformatted its Quarterly Report. These reports provide narrative detail for investigations, audits, and reviews the IGO has performed for the City.

Due to confidentiality requirements, the IGO cannot discuss the specifics of its administrative investigations. However, the IGO does report the general nature of each concluded investigation through its Quarterly Reports. One investigative focus of the office has been on reforming the City’s Minority & Women’s Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) program. Through numerous investigations, the IGO has recommended the debarment and decertification of 21 firms that defrauded or attempted to defraud the City through exploitation of this program.

The IGO concluded several audits in 2010. One audit focused on the processes and procedures related to Tax Increment Financing (TIF) expenditures between January 1, 2003 and December 31, 2007 for the Central Loop and Central West TIF districts. An additional audit reported on the processes and procedures related to the City’s Direct Voucher system. Both the TIF and Direct Voucher Audit included policy recommendations, some adopted by the City that have improved internal controls, accountability, and transparency in City operations.

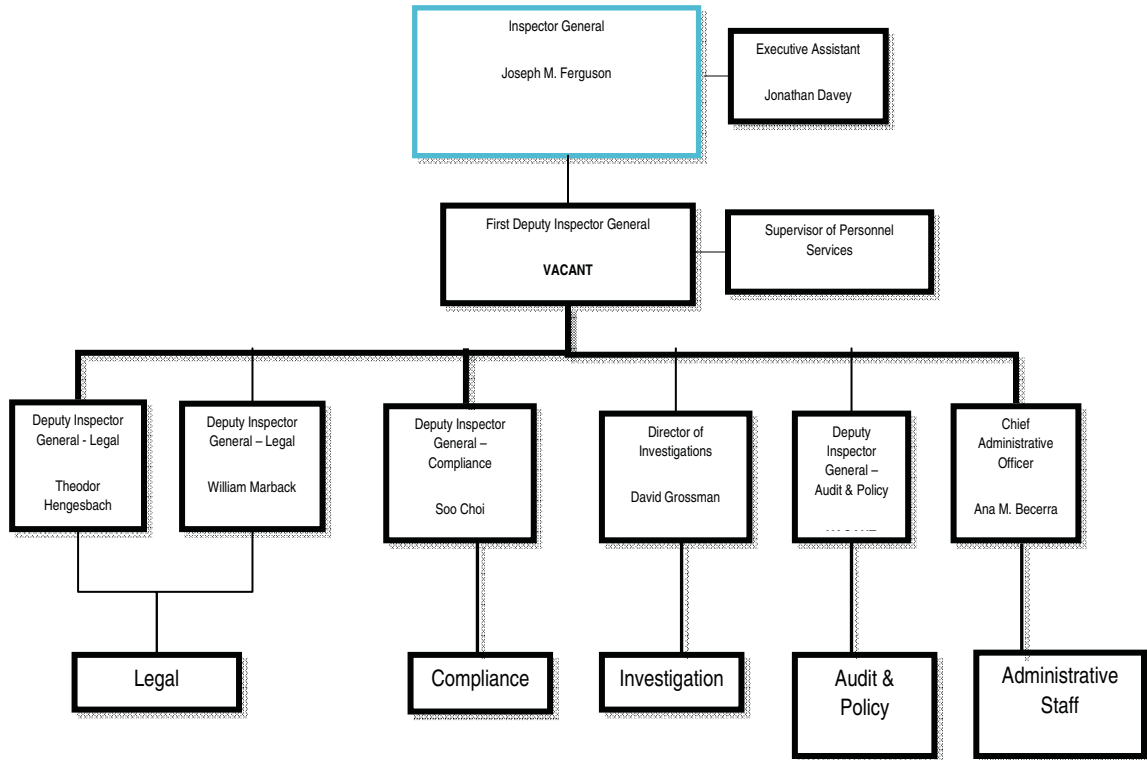
Employees

Full Time Positions	Amount
	71

2011 Budget

Fund	Amount
Corporate Fund	\$2,631,348
Water Fund	\$1,088,676
Chicago O'Hare Airport Fund	\$1,322,805
Sewer Fund	\$843,314
TOTAL	\$5,985,651

Organizational Chart



Facility Locations

Location	Address	Suite	Zip	Phone	Hours
Public Office	180 N Michigan	2000	60601	773-478-7799	8-5

Unions Representing Department Employees

Unions
AFSCME