

# **OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

# **U.S. Election Assistance Commission**



# **SEMIANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS** APRIL 1, 2022 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

## Message from the Inspector General



Brianna Schletz Inspector General

I am pleased to present the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) Semiannual Report to Congress for April 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022, in accordance with Section 5 of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended.

As described in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance, in May 2022, the EAC Interim Executive Director sent a memo to all staff emphasizing the importance of cooperation with OIG. The memo outlines responsibilities for providing timely information to OIG and urges staff to contact us about any concerns without fear of reprisal. I regularly meet with EAC leadership and the Chairman and am

encouraged by their dedication to accountability and meeting EAC's mission—to help election officials improve the administration of elections and help Americans participate in the voting process. OIG's mission is to safeguard the federal investment in our electoral system by conducting objective and meaningful oversight of EAC and its programs. In this report (page 11) we describe progress toward the goals outlined in our <u>strategic plan</u> and improvements to OIG processes, performance, and collaboration with stakeholders.

Despite our small team, during this 6-month period, we processed 167 <u>OIG Hotline</u> complaints, issued six audit reports, one review, and a peer review report. We also have 11 ongoing audits: two mandatory audits, eight audits of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grants (Alaska, American Samoa, California, Guam, Missouri, North Carolina, Northern Mariana Islands, and Wisconsin), and an audit of EAC's testing and certification program. We recently issued an ambitious <u>oversight plan</u> for fiscal year 2023. This plan focuses on areas of highest risk and stakeholder interest.

I look forward to continuing to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in EAC programs and operations.

## **Table of Contents**

Election Assistance Commission Profile	1
Office of Inspector General Profile/Mission	1
Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations	2
Investigations and Whistleblower Retaliation	6
Questioned Costs, Unsupported Costs, and Funds Put to Better Use	8
Summary of Outstanding Recommendations	9
Peer Review Activity	10
Annual Progress on Strategic Plan	11
Semiannual Reporting Requirements of the IG Act	14

## **Election Assistance Commission Profile**

Congress established the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC or Commission) through the passage of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-252). EAC is an independent, bipartisan commission that serves as a national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information and review of procedures for the administration of federal elections. The President appoints and the Senate approves four commissioners authorized by HAVA.

EAC's principal duties include maintaining a national clearinghouse of information on election administration; testing and certifying, decertifying, and recertifying voting systems; adopting voluntary voting system guidelines; and administering grants authorized by HAVA. From inception to 2011, EAC distributed over \$3 billion in grants to the 50 states, in addition to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa (hereinafter referred to as "states and territories"). The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-141) and 2020 (Pub. L. 116-93), collectively appropriated an additional \$805 million for payments to the states and territories, which included payments to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands beginning with the 2020 appropriation. Such funds are intended to employ activities to improve the administration of elections for federal office, including enhancing election technology and making election security improvements, as authorized by Sections 101, 103, and 104 of HAVA. In addition, via the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Pub. L. 116-136), Congress appropriated \$400 million to EAC as additional grant funding for the states and territories to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for the 2020 federal election cycle.

EAC recently received \$75 million in 2022 HAVA Election Security Grant funds to be awarded to states and territories. The purpose of this award is to "improve the administration of elections for federal office, including to enhance election technology and make election security improvements." Learn more at <u>www.eac.gov</u>.

## **Office of Inspector General Profile/Mission**

Created in 2005, the Office of Inspector General is an independent division of EAC. HAVA required the appointment of an Inspector General (IG) for EAC and amended the Inspector General Act (IG Act) of 1978 (5 U.S.C.A. App. 3) to identify EAC as a Designated Federal Entity. During this 6-month period, OIG has reached three full-time employees—the Inspector General, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, and a Senior Auditor. The Senior Auditor position was filled September 12, 2022. OIG continues to leverage its staff resources, contracts for audits with independent public accounting (IPA) firms, and acquires services from other federal agencies to perform the duties required under the IG Act.

The primary mission of the OIG is to conduct independent audits, evaluations, inspections, and investigations to promote economy and efficiency and to prevent and detect fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement in the programs and operations of EAC. The three primary activities are:

1) audits of EAC's grant recipients, 2) audits of EAC's programs and operations, and 3) investigations related to EAC's staff, operations, or grant recipients.

## Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations

During the 6 months that ended September 30, 2022, OIG issued one mandatory review, six HAVA grant audits and one correspondence. As of September 30, OIG has 11 ongoing audits. Final reports are publicly accessible via <u>EAC OIG's website</u> and on <u>Oversight.gov</u>.

#### Review of EAC's Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019

OIG conducted a review to determine whether EAC complied with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA) for fiscal year (FY) 2021. The <u>results</u> were issued on May 3, 2022. The review found EAC was not compliant for one of the six reporting requirements outlined in PIIA and two recommendations were issued to ensure compliance and improve the completeness of reported improper payment information. The report identified that it is unlikely that EAC reached the significant improper payment threshold in FY 2021.

#### Audit of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grants

OIG engaged McBride, Lock and Associates, LLC, an IPA firm, to conduct audits of the administration of payments received under the Help America Vote Act for several states. During the semiannual reporting period, six reports were issued: Arizona, Ohio, Indiana, Washington, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. Four of the reports (Indiana, Washington, Delaware, and Pennsylvania) contained recommendations that questioned ineligible or unsupported costs and funds put to better use totaling \$1,070,503.

6 HAVA Audit Reports Issued 25 Audit Recommendations 126.1 \$Audited, in Millions 1,070,503 \$Questioned



Audit Recommendation Categories

Ohio received a clean audit report with no recommendations. The other five audit reports resulted in 25 recommendations to address various issues. The most recurring recommendations were related to weaknesses around inventory control procedures and interest earned.

Summaries of each audit are below. Both Arizona and Indiana reports had three recommendations, Washington had five, Pennsylvania had six, and Delaware had eight.

Arizona

The final audit report was issued on August 9, 2022. The audit

found the Arizona Secretary of State generally accounted for HAVA funds in accordance with applicable requirements and used the funds in a manner consistent with informational plans submitted. However, there were two exceptions: (1) one software purchase was not tracked as property in the state's financial system; and (2) one of five counties sampled did not have complete property records. During the audit, the office took steps to address the exceptions. OIG made three recommendations.

#### Ohio

The final audit report was issued on August 9, 2022. The audit found the Ohio Secretary of State accounted for funds in accordance with applicable requirements, properly accounted for and controlled property purchased with HAVA payments, and used funds in a manner consistent with informational plans submitted. There were no findings and no recommendations.

#### Indiana

The final audit report was issued on September 2, 2022. The audit found the Indiana Secretary of State generally accounted for funds in accordance with applicable requirements and used the funds in a manner consistent with informational plans submitted. However, there were two exceptions: (1) procedures did not allow for timely allocation of interest earned on grant funds; and (2) subrecipient inventory listings for three counties did not include all required elements. OIG made three recommendations.

#### **Washington**

The final audit report was issued on September 6, 2022. The audit found the Washington Secretary of State generally accounted for funds in accordance with applicable requirements, accounted for and controlled property purchased, and used funds in a manner consistent with informational plans submitted during the audit period. However, in three exceptions, the Secretary of State: (1) charged \$190,363 in unallowable subrecipient costs to the CARES award; (2) may not have correctly calculated and reported interest earned on its financial reports; and (3) incorrectly cataloged some expenditures in its Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards. OIG made five recommendations.

#### **Delaware**

The <u>final audit report</u> was issued on September 21, 2022. The audit found the Delaware Commissioner of Elections generally accounted for funds in accordance with applicable requirements and used the funds in a manner consistent with informational plans submitted. However, in four exceptions, the Commissioner's office: (1) provided inadequate documentation to support 14 transactions resulting in \$629,248 of unallowable costs; (2) did not provide required asset listings; (3) lacked complete internal control and asset management policies; and (4) has not filed required financial reports for Section 251 funds since 2014 and did not report interest income properly on the Election Security and CARES financial reports. OIG made eight recommendations.

#### <u>Pennsylvania</u>

The <u>final audit report</u> was issued on September 22, 2022. The audit found the Pennsylvania Department of State generally accounted for and expended HAVA funds in accordance with applicable requirements and used the funds in a manner consistent with informational plans submitted during the audit period. However, in three exceptions, the Department: (1) did not have timesheets to support \$80,026 in salary and fringe costs for three employees; (2) reimbursed a county \$15,198 for a purchase that was made before the approved budget period; and (3) did not ensure that four counties were properly maintaining property records. OIG made six recommendations.

## <u>Cancellation: Audit of the Administration of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds by the State</u> of Georgia

In March 2022, the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts issued a <u>report</u> that covered the office's administration of HAVA funds. The auditors found the Secretary of State (SOS) office needs to improve compliance with federal grant requirements and implement an adequate system of internal controls related to its contracting and procurement activities. Rather than duplicate the work of the State auditors, EAC OIG notified EAC and the SOS office that we will perform an audit next year to ensure the Georgia SOS implemented corrective actions that address deficiencies noted in the March 2022 Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts report. The <u>correspondence</u> was issued on June 17, 2022.

## **Ongoing and Initiated Work During the Semiannual Period**

OIG has 11 ongoing audits. Below is a table of the five audits that were ongoing as April 1, 2022:

Title	Objective(s)	Conducted By (IPA /OIG)
FY 2022 EAC Compliance with the Requirements of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA)	To evaluate EAC's security program and practices, as required by FISMA.	IPA
Financial Statement Audit	To express an opinion on whether EAC's FY 2022 principal financial statements and related notes present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net position, net costs, changes in net position and budgetary resources in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.	IPA
Audit of the HAVA Grants Awarded to the State of California	To determine whether the State of California (1) used funds for authorized purposes in accordance with Sections 101 and 251 of HAVA and other applicable requirements; (2) properly accounted for and controlled property purchased with HAVA payments; and (3) used funds in a manner consistent with the informational plans provided to EAC. California's contract with SKD Knickerbocker was also included in the audit procedures, in response to Congressional interest.	IPA
Audit of the Administration of CARES Act and HAVA Election Security Funds for North Carolina	To determine whether North Carolina (1) used funds for authorized purposes in accordance with applicable requirements, (2) properly accounted for and controlled property purchased with EAC funds, and (3) used funds for intended purposes. We will also determine whether North Carolina complied with requirements for state matching.	OIG
Audit of the Administration of CARES Act and HAVA Election Security Funds for the Northern Mariana Islands	To determine whether the Northern Mariana Islands (1) used funds for authorized purposes in accordance with applicable requirements, (2) properly accounted for and controlled property purchased with EAC funds, and (3) used funds for intended purposes.	OIG

Below is a list of work that commenced during the semiannual period:

Audits of the Administration of Grant Payments Received Under the Help America Vote Act. In July 2022, OIG contracted an IPA firm to conduct audits of the HAVA grant payments for five states and territories. The objectives of each audit are to determine whether the state or territory (1) used funds for authorized purposes in accordance with Sections 101 and 251 of HAVA and other applicable requirements; (2) properly accounted for and controlled property purchased with HAVA payments; and (3) used funds in a manner consistent with the informational plans provided to EAC. If the state or territory has closed out its Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grant, the audit will also determine if closeout procedures were followed. OIG selected Alaska, American Samoa, Guam, and Wisconsin because their HAVA grants had never been audited. OIG also selected Missouri based on the time elapsed since an audit was conducted.

**Audit of EAC's Testing and Certification Program.** In July 2022, OIG announced an audit of EAC's Testing and Certification program. The objectives are (1) to describe the process for accrediting voting system test laboratories and certifying voting systems; and (2) to describe what factors affect EAC's testing and certification program.

## **Investigations and Whistleblower Retaliation**

During this semiannual period, EAC OIG continued to use an interagency agreement for investigative services with the Department of Interior (DOI) OIG. In the event EAC OIG receives allegations that require further review or it encounters fraud indicators during an audit, EAC OIG works with DOI OIG to determine whether to open an investigation.

EAC OIG maintains a hotline voicemail and email mailbox that receives complaint form submissions via

website and direct email complaints. The OIG Hotline serves as a vehicle through which EAC employees, as well as members of the public, may report suspected fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement. EAC OIG works with the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Public Integrity Section and its FBI contacts to refer any potential criminal acts

DOJ's Election Crimes Branch supervises the nationwide response to election crimes, such as voter fraud.

related to federal elections and voter fraud that are received. DOJ's Public Integrity Section oversees the investigation and prosecution of federal crimes affecting government integrity, including election crimes. The <u>Election Crimes Branch</u> within the section supervises the nationwide response to election crimes, such as voter fraud and campaign-finance offenses. When we receive complaints that are not within EAC OIG's jurisdiction but are related to election crimes, such as voter fraud, we forward the information to DOJ without assessing whether it is a viable complaint.

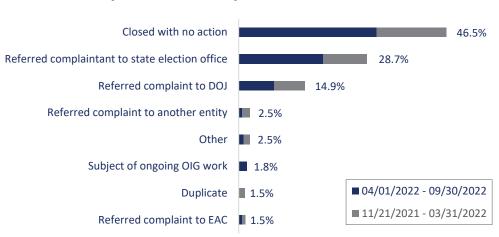
The authority and responsibility to administer elections is specifically reserved for the states and territories. When EAC OIG receives complaints related to voter registration or administration of elections, we refer the complainant to the appropriate state election office.

During the semiannual period, we received 167 complaints— 65 from via online form, 57 from email, and 45 from the OIG Hotline. Of the 167 complaints received, we referred 22 to DOJ and 52 to state election officials, representing 44 percent of the complaints received.



There were 85 complaints that were closed with no action. Generally, these complaints did not deal with EAC programs or

grants and therefore were not within EAC OIG's purview, or there was not enough information to refer the complainant to an appropriate entity. The figure below demonstrates the disposition of complaints received by EAC OIG for the reporting period and for FY 22. The "other" category includes areas that we are still researching. The items referred to EAC were informational inquiries.



## **Disposition of Complaints Received in FY22**

EAC Office of Inspector General

Based on a referral from the EAC Interim Executive Director and Acting General Counsel, OIG reviewed a matter of a former EAC employee holding a position outside of the federal government while simultaneously receiving paid leave from EAC. The facts and evidence were referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia for consideration; however, on September 13, 2022, the matter was declined. EAC management is determining available administrative actions. OIG (through our memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Department of Interior OIG) has one referral for suspension and debarment that is ongoing and one open investigation.

OIG did not issue any investigative reports during this semiannual reporting period. We did not perform or report on any investigations involving senior government employees during the period. Also, OIG was not made aware of any instances of whistleblower retaliation during the semiannual period.

# Questioned Costs, Unsupported Costs, and Funds Put to Better Use

During this semiannual period, OIG issued four reports with recommendations for questioned or unsupported costs, and funds put to better use totaling \$1,070,503.

Description	Audit Reports	Total in Audit Report	Total Dollar Value
Questioned	Audit of the HAVA Grants Awarded to Washington	\$158,635	\$173,833
(ineligible) Costs	Audit of the HAVA Grants Awarded to Pennsylvania	\$15,198	
Unsupported	Audit of the HAVA Grants Awarded to Delaware	\$629,248	\$709,274
Costs	Audit of the HAVA Grants Awarded to Pennsylvania	\$80,026	
Funds Put to	Audit of the HAVA Grants Awarded to Indiana	\$187,396	\$187,396
Better Use			

## **Summary of Outstanding Recommendations**

As of September 30, 2022, OIG has two reports containing three open recommendations that are more than 6 months old and for which EAC management had not completed final corrective actions. The open recommendations are procedural and do not have potential cost savings associated with them.

U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Policy Review, August 2017, I-PA-EAC-03-17		
Recommendation	Status as of September 30, 2022	
Enhance the records management system to document EAC's decisions, operations, policies, procedures, and practices.	EAC continues to report progress on this recommendation. Specifically, the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) created a draft Records Management Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) in 2021, which aims to supplement records retention schedules approved by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). OGC is working with the Office of Chief Information and Security Officer (OCIO) and the Executive Director to improve overall management of the records program. The anticipated implementation date of the SOP is October 2022.	
FY 2021 EAC Compliance w	<b>ith the Requirements of FISMA</b> , November 2021, I-PA-EAC-04-21	
Perform Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP) scanning to identify vulnerabilities in all systems on the network to assess both code-based and four Potentially Sensitive but Unclassified configuration- based vulnerabilities as required by Office of Management and Budget (OMB).EAC is working to implement a tool with SCAP scanning capabilities. This work has been delayed during FY22 as EAC on-boards with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation program to deploy and integrate their tools. The anticipated implementation is the first quarter of FY 2023.		
Ensure Windows 10 devices comply with Center for Internet Security (CIS) security benchmarks as required by the system security plan.	EAC reports that CIS benchmarks have been deployed to all EAC Windows 10 devices. Certain benchmark policies have not been implemented due to operational constraints. The risks and mitigations are documented. Additionally, EAC is currently working through various conflicts between existing deployed policies and CIS benchmarks that are preventing full compliance. EAC anticipates full implementation, with the exception of policies not implemented due to operational constraints, by the second quarter of FY 2023.	

## **Peer Review Activity**

Section 989C of the Dodd-Frank Act contains additional semiannual reporting requirements pertaining to peer review reports. Federal Inspectors General are required to engage in peer review processes related to both their audit and investigative operations. In keeping with Section 989C, EAC OIG is reporting the following information related to its audit peer review activities. These activities cover our roles as both the reviewed and the reviewing OIG.

In 3-year cycles, CIGIE coordinates peer reviews of each OIG audit organization. CIGIE's peer review program tests an OIG's system of quality control in accordance with the CIGIE Guide for Conducting Peer Reviews of the Audit Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General.

#### **EAC OIG Peer Review**

EAC OIG's modified peer review for the 3-year period ending March 31, 2021, was performed by the U.S. Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) OIG, and the final peer review report was issued by the FLRA IG to EAC's Deputy IG on July 19, 2021. The <u>final report</u> is posted on our website, and concluded that the established policies and procedures for the audit function as of March 31, 2021, were current and consistent with applicable professional standards, as stated.

The review report did not cite any deficiencies. However, EAC OIG received a Letter of Comment that included two findings with recommendations to improve established policies and procedures. During this semiannual period, EAC OIG issued an updated audit handbook and has fully addressed the recommendations. EAC OIG's next peer review is scheduled for the 3-year period ending March 31, 2024.

#### Peer Review of the National Endowment for the Humanities OIG Conducted by EAC OIG

On September 16, 2022, EAC OIG issued a <u>System Review Report</u> on the audit organization of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) OIG for the 3-year period ended March 31, 2022. We found that the system of control for the audit organization had been suitably designed and complied with requirements to provide NEH OIG with a reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. NEH OIG received a peer review rating of "Pass."

## **Annual Progress on Strategic Plan**

In March 2022, we updated our <u>strategic plan</u> and established measurable goals to help OIG reach its vision of operating as a high-performing organization and to help EAC be as efficient and effective as it can be. We identified performance metrics to assess progress toward our intended outcomes of improving OIG processes, performance, and collaboration with stakeholders.

Objective	Measurement	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Target
1.1	Number of policies updated/established	40	27
	Closed Peer Review Recommendations	Complete	N/A
1.2	Establish Annual Monitoring, Implement Improvements	Complete	Complete
	Pass Peer Review	N/A	N/A
1.3	Establish Interagency Agreement for Investigations	Yes	Yes
1.5	Report Investigative Statistics in Semiannual Report	Yes	Yes

### Goal 1: Assess and Improve OIG's Processes

*Objective 1.1:* At the start of FY 2022 EAC OIG had 67 policies in place—7 related to mission and organization, 9 on personnel, 13 covering general policies, and 38 connected to audit. During the year, 38 policies were updated and consolidated into an Audit Handbook with related supplements and 2 policies were updated and consolidated into an Investigations Manual. During FY 2023 EAC OIG plans to assess, consolidate, and update the remaining policies. Those that are no longer applicable will be retired.

### **Goal 2: Increase Performance and Value-Add Oversight**

Objective	Measurement	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Target
	Update Annual Planning Process	Yes	N/A
2.1	# Of Creative Solutions and impact on resources or results	4	2
	Enterprise Risk Management	No	Yes
	Meet mandatory audit requirements	Yes	Yes
2.2	Discretionary oversight work in progress	9	8
	Evaluate cost/benefit for current audit workload	No	Yes

Objective	Measurement	FY 2022	FY 2023
Objective	Measurement	Actual	Target
	Pilot and assess internal audit oversight of grants	Piloted but not yet complete	Complete
	Percentage of audit recommendations EAC agreed to	82	90
	Biennial follow up work on previous audit recommendations	Planned	Started
	Establish program for supporting EAC in outreach efforts to States	No	Draft Program
2.3	Number of outreach efforts	1	2
	Impact of outreach efforts	-	-

*Objective 2.1:* A solution is creative if it is an original and previously unknown way to solve to a problem. During FY 2022, EAC OIG implemented four creative solutions that had an impact on resources or results:

- In July 2021, EAC OIG announced an audit of the administration of HAVA funds by the State of Georgia. Meanwhile, in March 2022, the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts issued a report, which also covered the office's administration of HAVA funds. Rather than duplicate the work of the State auditors, EAC OIG <u>canceled</u> its Georgia audit. This reduced the cost of the audit contract, which resulted in cost savings for the government. It will also focus the Office's procedures on problematic areas when a followup audit is conducted in FY 2023.
- EAC OIG is staffing its audits of the administration of HAVA funds by the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the State of North Carolina with EAC OIG personnel rather than an IPA firm. This staffing model allowed the Office to respond quickly to the grantees failure to meet reporting requirements and enabled EAC OIG to work in partnership with the EAC grants team to provide needed technical assistance to the grantees.
- 3. In July 2022, EAC OIG announced an audit of EAC's Testing and Certification Program. Because the Office staffed this audit with internal personal, it was able to quickly respond to an uptick in public interest about the program.
- 4. In July 2022, OIG contracted an IPA firm to conduct audits of the HAVA grant payments for five states and territories. The contract for these audits included a requirement for the IPA firm to provide a list of promising practices implemented by the auditee, at the same time as the final audit report. The list will highlight general findings on particular policies or practices that would be valuable for EAC OIG to potentially communicate to other States as a resource when evaluating their own policies and practices.

*Objective 2.3:* In May 2022, EAC OIG attended a regular meeting of The National Association of State Election Directors and presented on the Office's mission and strategy. Every attendee was provided the Office's contact information and encouraged to reach out with information on fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement of EAC funds.

Objective	Measurement	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Target
2.1	Number of stakeholder communications	>20	>20
3.1	Impact of outreach efforts	-	-
	Establish Communications and Outreach Strategy	Drafted	Final Version
3.2	Number of partnerships with oversight agencies	5	3
	Results/Impact of Partnerships	-	-
3.3	Percentage of reports posted on EAC OIG website and oversight.gov within 3 days of issuance	100	100

#### Goal 3: Foster Stakeholder Collaboration and Encourage Transparency

*Objective 3.1:* Stakeholders that EAC OIG meets with on a regular basis include the EAC Commissioners, the EAC Interim Executive Director and Acting General Counsel, and the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. Periodic or as-requested meetings have also been held with The National Association of State Election Directors, the Committee on House Administration, and the House Committee on Oversight and Reform.

One impact of these communications was that in May 2022, the EAC Interim Executive Director sent a memo to all staff emphasizing the importance of cooperation with OIG. The memo outlines responsibilities for providing timely information to OIG and urges staff to contact the Office about any concerns without fear of reprisal.

*Objective 3.2:* During the year, EAC OIG met regularly with officials from the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. As a result, the Office was able to avoid duplicative work, as well as stay abreast on issues impacting Offices of Inspectors General. EAC OIG also entered into interagency agreements for services with Department of Interior OIG, AbilityOne OIG, and Department of State OIG.

Another accomplishment we are proud to report, is the new Highlights Page in our audit reports. To further address our goal of increasing transparency and fostering stakeholder engagement, the page allows readers to easily see the audit objectives, results, and related OIG recommendations.



## Semiannual Reporting Requirements of the IG Act

The following table lists requirements under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, a description of each requirement, and the page number in the report where a requirement is addressed. We also note requirements where we have nothing to report.

Requirement		
Under the IG Act	Description	Page in report
§5(a)(1)	Description of significant problems, abuses, deficiencies related to the administration of programs and operations	Nothing to report
§5(a)(2)	Recommendations for corrective action made during the reporting period	2-4
§5(a)(3)	Significant recommendations described in previous semiannual reports on which corrective action has not been completed	9
§5(a)(4)	Summary of matters referred to prosecutive authorities and the prosecutions and convictions which have resulted	8
§5(a)(5)	Summary of matters referred to the head of the agency under Section 6(c)(2) (refusal of assistance)	Nothing to report
§5(a)(6)	Listing of reports issued during the reporting period	2-4
§5(a)(7)	Summary of significant reports	2-4
§5(a)(8)	Statistical table showing questioned/unsupported costs	8
§5(a)(9)	Statistical tables showing funds put to better use	8
§5(a)(10)(A)	Summary of audit reports issued before the commencement of the reporting period for which no management decision has been made	Nothing to report
§5(a)(10)(B)	Summary of audit reports for which the agency has not returned comment within 60 days of receipt of the report	Nothing to report
§5(a)(10)(C)	Summary of audit reports for which there are outstanding unimplemented recommendations, including aggregate potential cost savings of those recommendations	9
§5(a)(11)	Significant revisions to management decisions made during the reporting period	Nothing to report
§5(a)(12)	Significant management decisions with which the Inspector General is in disagreement	Nothing to report

Requirement Under the IG Act	Description	Page in report
§5(a)(13)	Information described under Section 804(b) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996	Nothing to report
§5(a)(14-15)	Status of EAC OIG Peer Review and Applicable recommendations	10
§5(a)(16)	Status of Peer Reviews conducted by EAC OIG	10



## Visit our website at eac.gov/inspector-general

U.S. Election Assistance Commission
Office of Inspector General
633 3rd Street, NW, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20001

**Report Waste, Fraud, and Abuse** eacoig@eac.gov | <u>Online Complaint Form</u>