

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Office of Inspector General
Headquarters
Washington, D.C. 20546-0001



Reply to Attn of: Office of Inspector General

June 29, 2000

Ms. Sylvia Mathews
Deputy Director
Office of Management and Budget
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Mathews:

Enclosed is the NASA Office of Inspector General (OIG) summary list of commercial activities for Fiscal Year (FY) 2000.

The language and legislative history of the Inspector General (IG) statute reflects the inherently governmental nature of the IG mission. Obviously, as deemed appropriate by the IG, contracting out can be used on a very limited basis to enhance OIG resources. However, even in those areas that may be appropriate to outsource, OIGs must nonetheless maintain a core oversight capability.

For the FY 1999 submission all the functions we listed on the spreadsheet were deemed to be inherently governmental. We cited that the required Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Act audit is performed under contract. This contract is being used to perform the required FY 2000 CFO audit with OIG audit staff oversight. Continued streamlining of the OIG Resources Management Division by using Agency support, where the IG missions are minimally impacted, is allowing additional resources to be placed on primary functions of auditing/evaluating NASA programs and conducting administrative and criminal investigations.

We received one challenge and one appeal of our FY 1999 submission. NASA, as an agency, also received a challenge and appeal from the same organization. Both the challenge and appeal were denied.

Our submission for FY 2000 is based on the guidelines published by OMB. The spreadsheet shows the breakout of the various functions performed by OIG staff, including the locations at which they are performed. In essence, the functions identified for FY 2000 are a more detailed breakout of the consolidated FY 1999 submission.

Similar to our FY 1999 submission, all of our functions, as shown, are deemed to be inherently governmental in nature. As stated in our previous submission, outsourcing by IGs must be undertaken with care. For example, areas vulnerable to compromise of security by potential targets, such as OIG database and network administrative functions, must be protected to maintain the integrity of ongoing OIG investigations, audits, and evaluations. Maintaining the independence of the OIG allows this office to sustain the integrity of our work.

If you have any questions or require any further information, please feel free to call me at (202) 358-1220.

Sincerely,

[Original Signed by David M. Cushing]

Roberta L. Gross
Inspector General

Enclosure

NASA OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Inventory of Commercial Positions

<u>Organization Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of FTE</u>	<u>Function Code</u>	<u>Reason Code</u>	<u>Year activity first appeared on Inventory</u>	<u>Responsible Official</u>	<u>Year Cost Comparison Completed</u>	<u>FTE and Dollar Savings</u>
Office of Inspector General	DC and	0	I 100	NA	N/A	C.E. Heaton, Jr. (202) 358-2561	N/A	N/A
Office of Audits	In any of 50 states	0	I440/I430	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Office of Criminal Investigations	In any of 50 states	0	Y410	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Office of Inspections, Investigations and Assessments	In any of 50 states	0	I440	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Office of Legal Counsel	CA, DC, TX	0	Y401	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Resources Management Div.	DC, VA	0	I100	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Personnel & Manpower Program Management	DC	0	Y530	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Budget & Financial Program Management	DC	0	Y510	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A