About TIGTA

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) was established in January 1999 in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (RRA 98) to provide independent oversight of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) activities. As mandated by RRA 98, TIGTA assumed most of the responsibilities of the IRS’s former Inspection Service. Although TIGTA is placed organizationally within the Treasury Department and reports to the Secretary of the Treasury and to Congress, it functions independently from all other offices and bureaus within the Treasury Department.

Audits. TIGTA’s Office of Audit (OA) identifies opportunities to improve the administration of the nation’s tax laws by conducting comprehensive, independent performance and financial audits of IRS programs, operations, and activities.

Inspections and Evaluations. TIGTA’s Office of Inspections and Evaluations (OIE) provides a range of specialized services and products, including quick reaction reviews, onsite inspections, and in-depth evaluations of a major departmental function, activity, or program.

Investigations. TIGTA’s Office of Investigations (OI) conducts investigations that proactively and reactively protect the Treasury Department’s ability to collect revenue owed to the Federal Government. OI works to protect the integrity of the IRS and detect and prevent fraud and other misconduct within IRS programs. This includes investigating allegations of criminal violations and administrative misconduct by IRS employees, as well as protecting the IRS against external attempts to corrupt or threaten its employees.

Our Mission. Provide quality, professional audit, investigative, and inspection and evaluation services that promote integrity, economy, and efficiency in the administration of the nation’s tax system.

Our Vision. Maintain a highly skilled, proactive, and diverse Inspector General organization dedicated to working in a collaborative environment with key stakeholders to foster and promote fair tax administration.

Statutory Mandate

- Protect against IRS employee improprieties and external attempts to corrupt or threaten IRS employees.
- Provide policy direction and conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits and investigations related to IRS programs and operations.
- Review existing and proposed legislation and regulations related to IRS programs and operations, and make recommendations concerning the impact of such legislation or regulations.
- Promote economy and efficiency in the administration of tax laws.
- Prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse in IRS programs and operations.
- Inform the Secretary of the Treasury and Congress of problems and deficiencies identified and of the progress made in resolving them.
Our Impact Fiscal Year 2021

TIGTA’s efforts resulted in the protection and identification of monetary benefits totaling $16.1 billion. TIGTA remains one of the taxpayers’ best investments. For each dollar invested, TIGTA produces an average return of $95.

Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations
- Issued 82 audits, inspections, and evaluations with 285 recommendations to improve IRS operations and programs.
- Reduced the burden on two million taxpayers.
- Improved privacy and security of 639,000 taxpayers.

Investigations
- Completed 2,717 investigations resulting in 198 indictments and 2,057 administrative actions.
- Recovered $8.6 million in embezzled or stolen funds.
- $57.6 million in court-ordered fines, penalties, and restitution.

Our Inspector General

J. Russell George. Following his nomination by President George W. Bush, the United States Senate confirmed J. Russell George in November 2004, as the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. Mr. George also serves as a member of the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC), whose mission is to promote transparency and provide coordinated oversight of the Federal Government’s coronavirus response. Mr. George received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University in Washington, DC, and his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Harvard University’s School of Law in Cambridge, MA.

Our Organization

More Information

Materials about our mission, oversight work, and operations are available—including TIGTA’s reports on audits, investigations, Semiannual Reports to Congress, and IRS major management and performance challenges—at www.tigta.gov.

Contact TIGTA

To report fraud, waste, or abuse go to www.tigta.gov. Media inquiries can be directed to TIGTA’s Public Affairs Liaison at TIGTAcommunications@tigta.treas.gov or (202) 622-3062.