

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL PALM BEACH COUNTY

"ENHANCING PUBLIC TRUST IN GOVERNMENT"

### **Examples/Suggestions: How Inspectors General/Internal Auditors Present Themselves/Their Work**

John A. Carey INSPECTOR GENERAL

### Overview

- Talking to the Public.
- Talking to the IG/Audit Committee.
- Talking to Management/Clients/Those you Oversee.

## **Communications is Key**

*"You can have brilliant ideas, but if you can't get them across, your ideas won't get you anywhere."* Lee Iacocca

*"The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that is has taken place."* George Bernard Shaw

"Interpersonal and communication skills...the most important factor in determining the success or failure of an IG." Matthew D. Harris, Ph.D.

# **Talking to the Public**



## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL PALM BEACH COUNTY

*"ENHANCING PUBLIC TRUST IN GOVERNMENT"* 

### The IG's Role in Promoting Ethics in Government

John A. Carey INSPECTOR GENERAL

### Overview

- History of U.S. Inspectors General.
- The Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General.
- The IG's Contributions Related to the Value of Compliance and Ethics in Government.

## **Questions We Will Answer**

- What are Inspectors General?
- Why do we need Inspectors General?
- How can management, government employees, vendors, and citizens work together with Inspectors General?

# Beginnings

- 1777 <u>George Washington</u>, commander of the Continental Army, establishes the position of Inspector General.
- IG would promote standardization, efficiency, and effectiveness in the Army.



Landmark Legislation Inspector General Act of 1978

- Political climate of late 1970s.
- Serious fraud, waste, and abuse at large Federal agencies.
- Congress felt that broad reform was needed to root out fraud, waste, and abuse government-wide.
- Answer to this problem was the Inspector General Act.

# The Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General

## Palm Beach County Ethics Movement

- 2003 2010: Arrests/Prosecutions of high level County and City officials.
- > 2009: State Attorney convenes a Grand Jury.
- December 2009: County Code of Ethics, Commission on Ethics, and the Office of Inspector General created.

The Creation of the Palm Beach County IG

- November 2010, by over a 72% majority, the people of Palm Beach County voted to expand the IG's jurisdiction over all 38 municipalities.
- The Palm Beach County IG is unique in that this is the only IG that <u>reports to its citizens</u>.

The Palm Beach County Inspector General Committee

- Composition of the IG Committee (CoE plus 2):
  - County Chiefs of Police Rep
  - County Bar Associations Rep
  - Florida Atlantic University Faculty (Ethics) Rep
  - Palm Beach Chapter of CPAs Rep
  - Palm Beach County League of Cities Rep
  - State Attorney
  - Public Defender

# The Palm Beach County Inspector General Committee

- Responsibilities of the IG Committee:
  - Select the IG
  - Determine whether or not to renew the IG's contract
  - Receive six month update (briefing) from the IG
    - Review, offer questions, comments, recommendations
  - Receive IG Annual Report
  - May investigate and remove IG for cause

# PBC OIG's Mission and Functions

- Our mission is to provide independent and objective insight, oversight, and foresight in promoting efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity in government.
- We accomplish this mission by conducting audits, investigations, and contract oversight activities.
- > Ultimately, enhancing public trust in government.

## **Our OIG Approach**

### **Oversight**

Holding government accountable for resources and performance

### Insight

Helping good people do things better.

Promoting efficiency & effectiveness

### Foresight

Looking ahead

Preventing fraud, waste, and abuse Jurisdiction/Oversight Responsibilities

- County, Cities, SWA, and CSC
   Employees: 13,000 (+)
- County, Cities, SWA, and CSC
   Combined Budgets: \$7.5 Billion
- Contract Value Monitored:
   \$1 Billion (+)

## What Does the IG Cost

- Annual Budget: \$2.8 Million
- Total Office Structure: 40 people
- Current Funded Level: 23 people

**\$1.71** That's what the average person spends on 1 cup of coffee



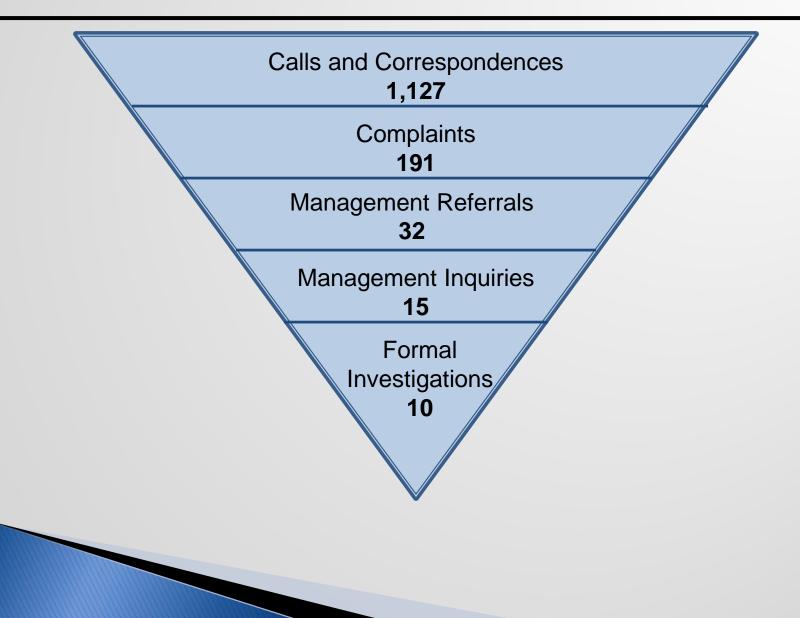
## Organization

TheOfficeofInspectorGeneral isorganizedintothreeservices:

- Investigations
- Contract Oversight
- Audits



## Hotline/Intake FY 2015



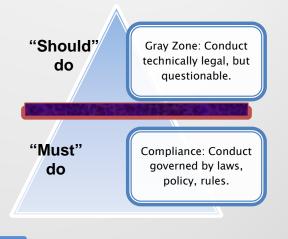


#### Investigation #2014-0009 Palm Beach County CCNA Short List

- ALLEGATIONS:
  - A County Department Deputy Director, as the Chair of a Committee:
    - Improperly voted for firms with whom she maintained close personal relationships.
    - Improperly influenced the votes of subordinate Committee members.
  - A County Department's policies were not in compliance with Florida Statutes.

2 Allegations were deemed inconclusive because there were no restrictions in place.

The Deputy Director was immediately removed from the Committee. The County also took immediate action to begin scoring all consultants' proposals and is in the process of finalizing revised PPMs related to this subject matter.





**Contract Oversight Notification 2015-N-0001 Delray Beach Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials** 

The City's previous Commission rejected the OIG recommendation to competitively solicit waste collection services. The City incurred additional costs until a new Commission competitively procured these services.

> Questioned Costs \$3 million



By implementing previous OIG recommendation (2012-N-0002) and entering into a contract resulting from a competitive procurement, the City and its residents will realize significantly reduced waste collection fees.





#### Audit Report 2015-A-0003

South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Board

FINDINGS: Significant control weakness identified; resulting in 40 recommendations.

- Contracts Not Competitively Procured
- Questionable Payroll and Benefits Transactions
- Unsubstantiated Credit Card Transactions
- Unauthorized Bank Account and Questionable Activities
- No Policies and Procedures for Raw Materials Disposal
- No Policies and Procedures for Fixed Assets
- No Policies and Procedures for Fuel Program
- Accounting Procedures Deficiencies
- Inadequate Oversight and Monitoring of Financial Activities

Questioned Costs \$2,247,519 Identified Costs \$61,274 Potential Avoidable Costs \$1,630,407

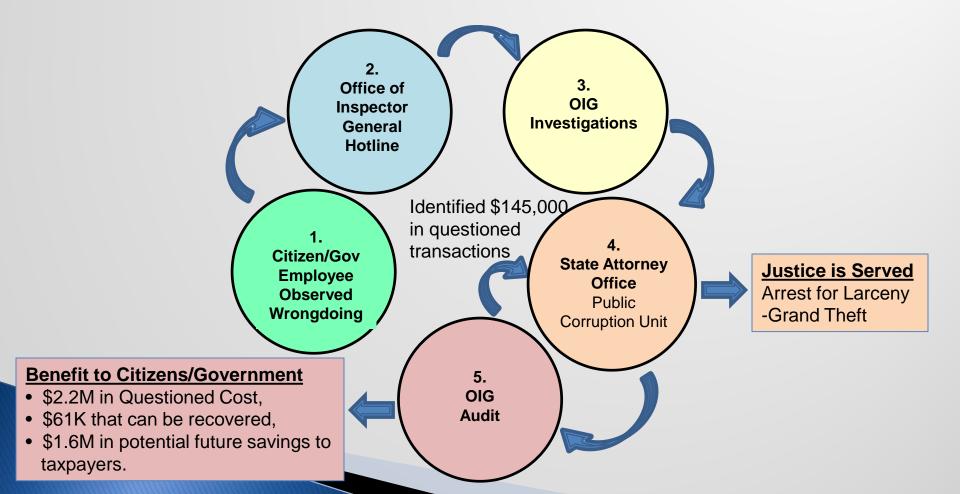
**Corrective Actions:** All 40 recommendations accepted; 21 implemented as of September 22, 2015.

**Criminal Action:** Questionable transactions referred to State Attorney's Office. Former Executive Director arrested for Larceny-Grand Theft.

## How we work together:

EXAMPLE:

South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Board



### TRAINING AND OUTREACH

#### FY 2015 Education/Awareness Publications & Announcements

Presentations, training, meetings with over 3,000 citizens



**Request for Proposal (RFP) Evaluation Criteria** 



Updates from your Inspector General May and November 2015

June 2015

John A. Carey, Inspector General

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### **Return on Investment**

### **Input:**

### Cost of OIG to date (2010-2015) = \$11.2 M

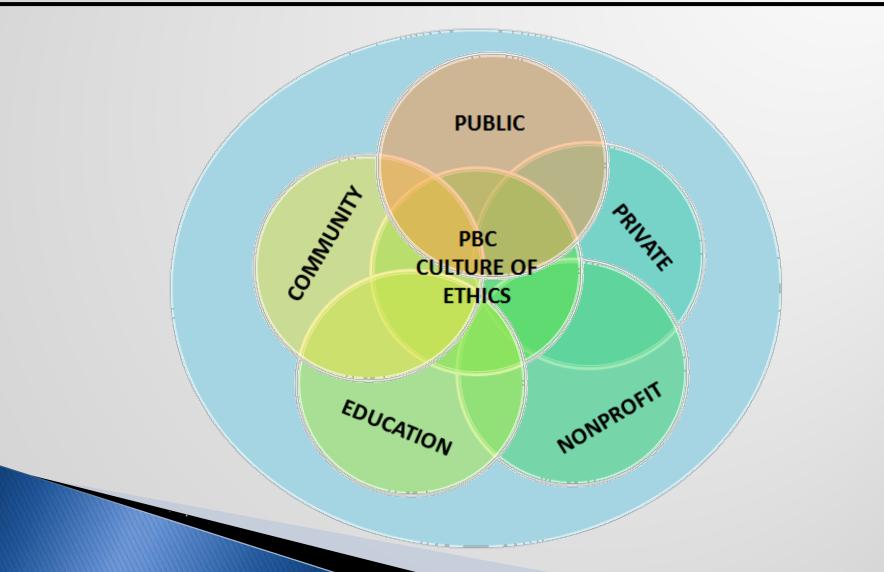
Output: \$1.8M Found in Identified Costs

- + \$20M Discovered in <u>Avoidable Costs</u>
- = \$21.8M Potential Savings for Taxpayers

## **Return on Investment**

- But return on investment is MUCH MORE than dollars and cents.
  - We make government better.
  - We "level the playing field."
  - We offer an independent office for citizens in and out of government to bring concerns, questions, complaints.
  - We promote transparency and accountability.

### **Ultimately Building and Maintaining a Culture of Ethics is Everyone's Business**



# Talking to the IG/Audit Committee



### SIX MONTH STATUS REPORT April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

John A. Carey, Inspector General





> MISSION & RESPONSIBILITIES

- > OIG ACTIVITIES (April 1, 2015 September 30, 2015)
- FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET & STAFFING
- LAWSUIT UPDATE
- FY 2015 SUMMARY & HIGHLIGHTS

**PLANS, OBJECTIVES, & INITIATIVES** 

### **OIG MISSION**



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- Ultimately, enhancing public trust in government.

### **OUR OIG APPROACH**



### **Oversight**

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### Insight

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Promoting efficiency & effectiveness

### Foresight

Looking ahead

Preventing fraud, waste, and abuse

### **INSPECTOR GENERAL SIX MONTH REPORT**



April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

### **Intake & Investigations**

# **Highlights**

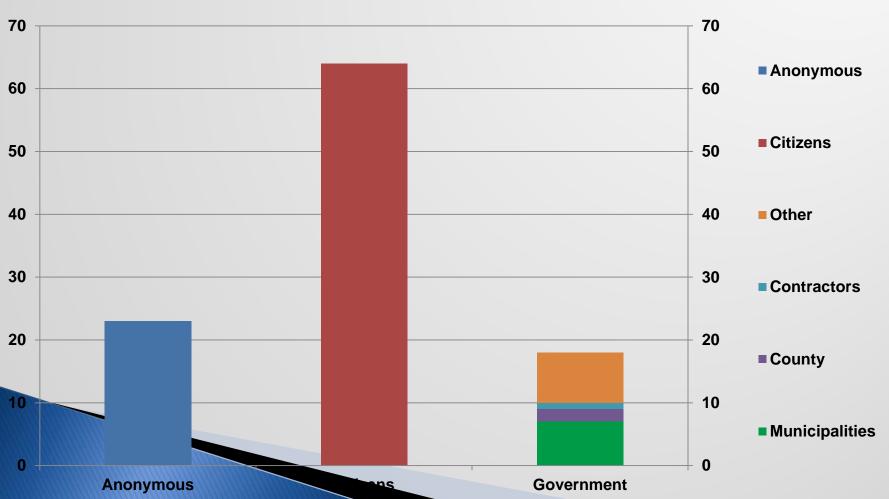


#### **INTAKE ACTIVITIES**

Current 6 Months		Previous 6 Months	
400	Number of calls to the Office & Hotline	424	Number of calls to the Office & Hotline
182	Written Correspondences received	121	Written Correspondences received
	<ul> <li>105 (58%) Complaints consisting of 107 Allegations of wrongdoing</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>86 (71%) Complaints consisting of 129 Allegations of wrongdoing</li> </ul>
12	Correspondences led to the initiation of <b>6</b> Investigations and <b>6</b> referred to OIG Contract Oversight	10	Correspondences led to the initiation of <b>4</b> Investigations; <b>1</b> referred to OIG Audit; and <b>5</b> referred to OIG Contract Oversight
47	Public Records The Trests	14	Public Records Requests



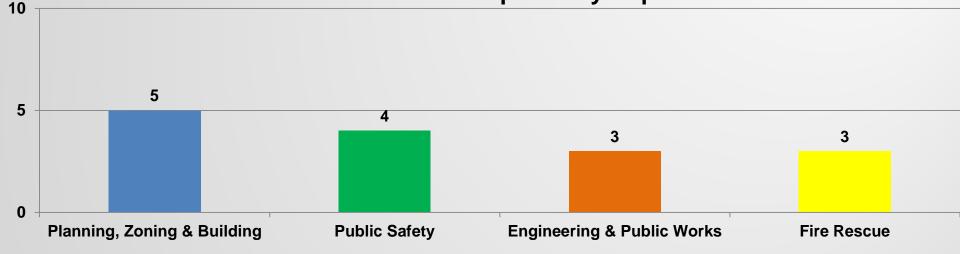
**Complaint Reporting Sources – 105 of the 182 Correspondences** 



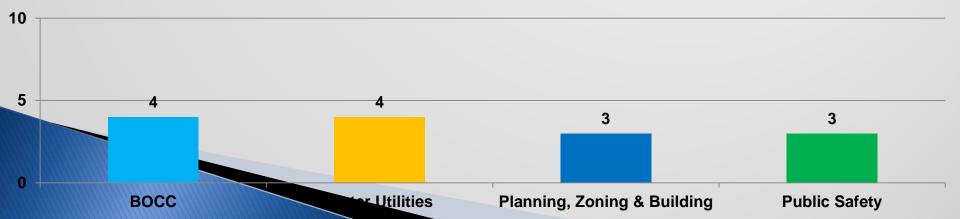


**Top Correspondences Per County Department** 

#### **Current 6 Months - Top County Departments**



#### **Previous 6 Months - Top County Departments**





**Top Correspondences Per Municipality** 

Top Cities		
Current 6 Months	Previous 6 Months	
Delray Beach (61)	Delray Beach (24)	
Riviera Beach (14)	Lake Worth (8)	
Loxahatchee Groves (6)	West Palm Beach (7)	
Pahokee (4)	Loxahatchee Groves (5)	
West Palm Beach (3)	Riviera Beach (5)	



#### **Top Allegations Made**

Current 6 Months		
Employee Misconduct	31	
Financial Improprieties	6	
Contract Improprieties	4	
Public Records	2	

Previous 6 Months		
Employee Misconduct	33	
Contract Improprieties	6	
Financial Improprieties	4	
Theft	4	



Investigative Activities	Current 6 Months	Previous 6 Months
Investigations Initiated (including Management Reviews)	15	9
Self Initiated Preliminary Inquiries	6	N/A
Cases Initiated by OIG (Audit & Investigations) – Referred to PCU for Criminal Prosecution	1	6
Issued Reports	2	1
Corrective Actions/Recommendations Made	5	3
Corrective Actions, Decommendations Accepted	5	0

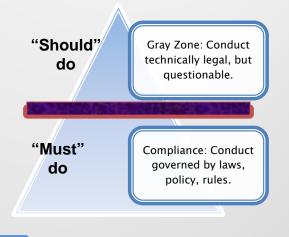


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The Deputy Director was immediately removed from the Committee. The County also took immediate action to begin scoring all consultants' proposals and is in the process of finalizing revised PPMs related to this subject matter.



## **INSPECTOR GENERAL'S SIX MONTH REPORT**



April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

### **Contract Oversight**

### **Highlights**

## **INSPECTOR GENERAL'S SIX MONTH HIGHLIGHTS**



**Contract Oversight** 

PREVENTION: To reduce the appearance of and opportunity for vendor favoritism and inspire public confidence that contracts are being awarded equitably and economically, Contract Oversight staff routinely attend selection committee meetings and perform contract oversight activities.

Current Number of Contracts Monitored: 57

Current Contract Value: \$1.03 Billion

Number of Procurement Meetings Attended: 36

## **INSPECTOR GENERAL SIX MONTH REPORT**



April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

Contract Oversight	Current 6 Months	Previous 6 Months
Issued Reports	2	2
Recommendations Made	1	3
Recommendations Accepted	1	3
Questioned and Identified Costs	\$3,075,543	\$198,674
Avoidable Costs	\$9,024,710	\$0



Contract Oversight Notification 2015-N-0001 Delray Beach Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials

The City's previous Commission rejected the OIG recommendation to competitively solicit waste collection services. The City incurred additional costs until a new Commission competitively procured these services.

> Questioned Costs \$3 million



By implementing previous OIG recommendation (2012-N-0002) and entering into a contract resulting from a competitive procurement, the City and its residents will realize significantly reduced waste collection fees.

**Avoidable Costs** 

\$9 million

## **INSPECTOR GENERAL'S SIX MONTH REPORT**



April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

### Audit

## **Highlights**



April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

Audit Activities	Current 6 Months	Previous 6 Months
Issued Reports	1	2
Recommendations Made	40	42
Recommendations Accepted	40	38
Questioned and Identified Costs	\$2,308,793	\$880,504
Avoidable Costa	\$1,630,407	\$1,040,084



Audit Report 2015-A-0003

South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Board

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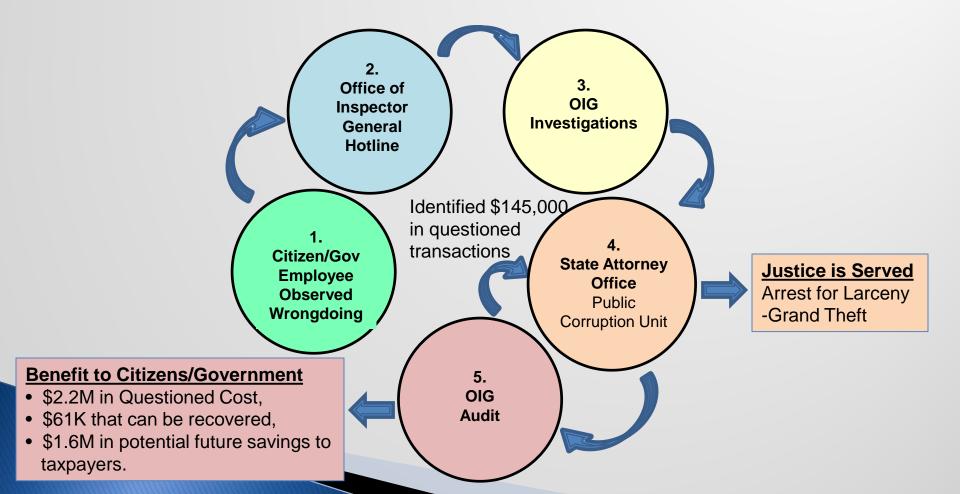
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# How we work together:

EXAMPLE:

South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Board



## **OIG RETURN ON INVESTMENT**



	April - September 2015	June 2010 – Present
Questioned Cost A finding that the expenditure of funds for the intended purpose is unnecessary or unreasonable and/or lacks adequate documentation.	\$5,247,519	\$18,360,820
Identified Cost Those dollars that have the potential of being returned to offset the taxpayers' burden.	\$61,274	\$1,844,504
Potential Avoidable Costs Dollar value that will not be spent over three years if OIG's recommendations are implemented.	\$10,630,407	\$19,787,311
Recommendations/Corrective Actions	46 (100% Acceptance Rate)	477 (94% Acceptance Rate)
Calls and Correspondences	583	8,423

At the End of the Day, the OIG Provides Trust in Government.

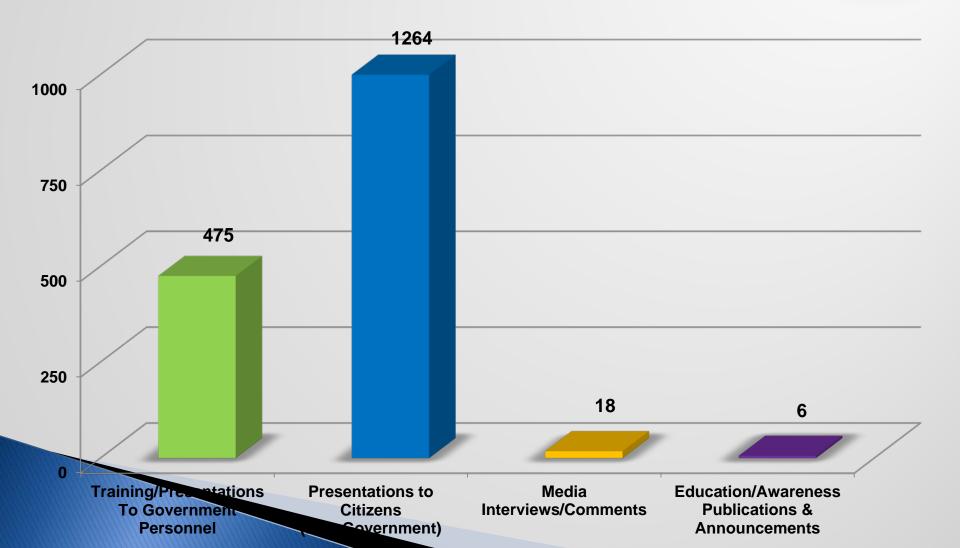
## **INSPECTOR GENERAL'S SIX MONTH REPORT**



April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

Training and Outreach

## **TRAINING AND OUTREACH**



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## **TRAINING AND OUTREACH**

#### **Education/Awareness Publications & Announcements**



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL NEWSLETTER "A Quarterly Publication of the Office of Inspector General, Palm Beach County"



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL UPDATE AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM RECENT PROJECTS June 2015

John A. Carey, Inspector General

Enhancing Public Trust in Government



John A. Carey Inspector General OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL PALM BEACH COUNTY

OIG TIPS AND TRENDS #2015-0004 SEPTEMBER 2015



Inspector General Accredited

#### **Request for Proposal (RFP) Evaluation Criteria**



Updates from your Inspector General May and November 2015



Protecting Your Tax Dollars

# **INSPECTOR GENERAL FY 2015 BUDGET & STAFFING**



#### OIG Budget & Staffing Compared with OIG Oversight Responsibilities

"The sheer size of the government operations that your office oversees and your office's jurisdiction and responsibility are unparalleled by any other local government inspectors general office."

**2015 Association of Inspectors General Peer Review Report** 

### **INSPECTOR GENERAL'S SIX MONTH REPORT**



### FISCAL YEAR 2015 SUMMARY & HIGHLIGHTS

# FY 2015 – A YEAR OF TRANSITION AND GROWTH



#### **Personnel:**

- 6 new hires (25% of current staff)
- > 100% new senior leadership team

### **Policies:**

- New IG Approach
- > Updated Mission, Vision, and Values
- > Updated OIG Strategic Plan

# FY 2015 – ACCOMPLISHMENTS





"The assessment was flawless."

### **Building Credibility:**

- Re-accredited
- > Peer Reviewed

 $\succ$ 

- First Comprehensive Risk Assessment
- Enhanced OIG Staff Development Training
  - Meetings/Speaking Engagements/Training Events:
    - **3,000 (+)** Citizens and Government Employees



*"Met all current and relevant standards."* 

# FY 2015 – ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### **Output/Outcomes:**

- > We Listened: 1,100 (+) Call-ins and correspondences
- We Guarded and Saved Taxpayers Dollars:
  - Questioned Costs: \$6.3 (+) M
  - Identified Costs: \$77 (+) K
  - Avoidable Costs: \$11.7 (-) M
- > We Made Government Better:
  - > 94 Recommendations (96% Acceptance Rate)

OUTPUT: At the End of the Day, "Enhancing Public Trust in Government."

### **INSPECTOR GENERAL'S SIX MONTH REPORT**



### Plans, Objectives, and Initiatives

# PLANS, OBJECTIVES, AND INITIATIVES



#### **OIG Vision Statement:**

To lead as a catalyst for positive change throughout local governments and public organizations in Palm Beach County with an inspired and skilled team that strives for continuous improvement.

### **Turning Vision into Reality Requires:**

- Leadership at every level
- Staff development

Teamwork (OIG, Government, Citizens)

# PLANS, OBJECTIVES, AND INITIATIVES



### **Focusing OIG limited resources:**

- > Audit: Execute Audit Plan based on Risk Assessment
- Investigations: Continue to analyze anomalies/red flags
- Contract Oversight: Execute Plan based on Risk Assessment focusing on outcomes over output

### **Continuing IG awareness/info sharing initiatives:**

- Internal (Government) Awareness Initiatives
- Business/Government Stakeholders Meetings
  - **Citizens** Outreach

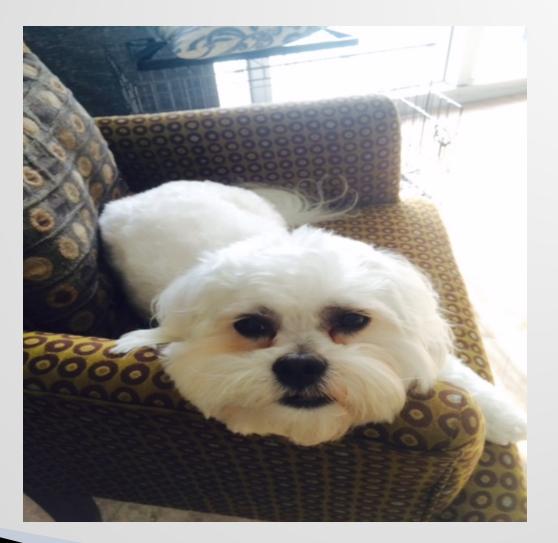
# Talking to Management/Clients/Those you Oversee

Inspectors General: Attack Dogs, Lap Dogs, or Watch Dogs?

# **Attack Dog**



# Lap Dog



# Watch Dog



## **OUR OIG APPROACH**



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Holding government accountable for resources and performance

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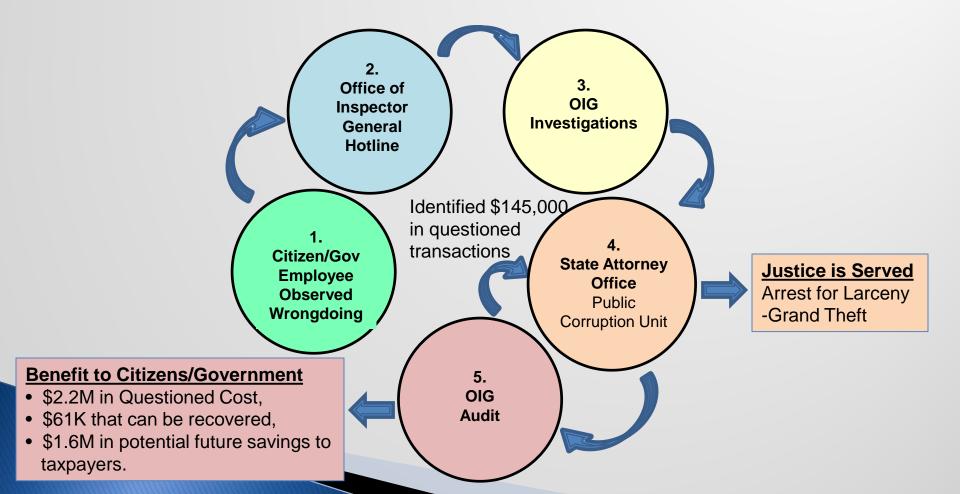
Looking ahead

Preventing fraud, waste, and abuse

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# **LESSONS LEARNED**

#### **Appearance of Impropriety**

- The Chair of a procurement committee voted for firms whose principal consultants/owners were, in her words, her "friends" (weekly lunches, vacations, holidays, etc.).
- The Chair also made statements to other Committee members who were the Chair's subordinates about their votes or lack of votes for her "friends."



<sup>&</sup>quot;So, I'm the only one who sees a conflict of interest here?"

Recusal policies are now being implemented to ensure that individuals with procurement responsibilities recuse themselves in matters involving their personal/private relationships with vendors and/or contractors.

#### **LESSONS LEARNED:**

- An action may be within policy/law, but is it right? Does it give the appearance of impropriety?
- What can and can't procurement officials do in your entity?

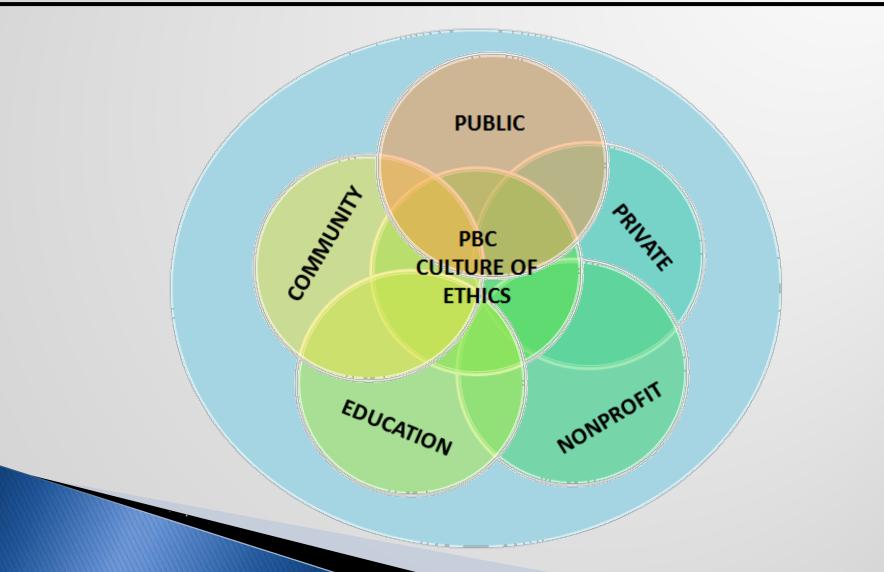


#### REFERENCE GUIDE FOR MANAGERS: RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL PALM BEACH COUNTY

Management and the IG: "Working together to promote efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity in government.

February 2016

### **Ultimately Building and Maintaining a Culture of Ethics is Everyone's Business**



# **QUESTIONS?**

### Visit our website at:

http://www.pbcgov.com/OIG