



DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

Office of Inspector General

September 29, 2026

Major General John D. Haas
The Adjutant General
Department of Military Affairs
St. Francis Barracks
P.O. Box 1008
St. Augustine, Florida 32085-1008

Ms. Melinda Miguel, Chief Inspector General (CIG)
Office of the Governor
The Capitol, Suite 1902
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Dear General Haas and CIG Miguel:

In accordance with Section 20.055(8), Florida Statutes, I am pleased to submit the Department of Military Affairs' (Department) Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. This report provides an overview of the OIG's activities in fulfillment of its statutory duties and highlights our accomplishments conducted throughout the fiscal year.

The OIG extends its appreciation to you and Department management for your continued support, assistance, and cooperation throughout the year. We remain dedicated to the goals of the Department and to our work to provide a central point for coordination of and responsibility for activities that promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency.

Respectfully,

RANICK.JENNIFER.
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Jennifer L. Ranick
Inspector General
Department of Military Affairs



DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

Office of Inspector General

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2025-2026



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) supports the Department of Military Affairs (Department) in accomplishing its mission by providing independent and objective oversight designed to promote integrity, accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness throughout the organization. Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, establishes the duties and responsibilities of agency inspectors general and requires the OIG to prepare an annual report summarizing its activities and accomplishments during the preceding fiscal year.

This annual report provides an overview of the Department's OIG's activities and accomplishments during the 2025-2026 fiscal year and demonstrates the OIG's continued commitment to professional excellence, integrity, objectivity, independence, and accountability. Through its audit, investigative, and other oversight activities, the OIG works to strengthen the Department's governance, risk management, and control processes; promote the efficient and effective use of public resources; and support the prevention and detection of fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, and other irregularities. In accordance with statutory requirements, this report is presented to The Adjutant General and the Governor's Chief Inspector General. It also serves to inform Department management, employees, oversight entities, and other interested parties of the OIG's efforts to fulfill its statutory responsibilities, accomplish its mission, support the public interest, and contribute to the continued integrity and success of the Department.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the OIG is to assist the Department and its employees in maintaining the highest level of accountability, integrity, efficiency, and compliance within programs and activities.

INDEPENDENCE

In accordance with section 20.055(3), F.S., the Inspector General shall be under the general supervision of the Department head for administrative purposes, shall report to the Chief Inspector General, and may hire and remove staff within the Office of Inspector General in consultation with the Chief Inspector General, but independently of the Department. The organizational independence of the Inspector General empowers the team to independently conduct audits, inspections, investigations, and other activities.

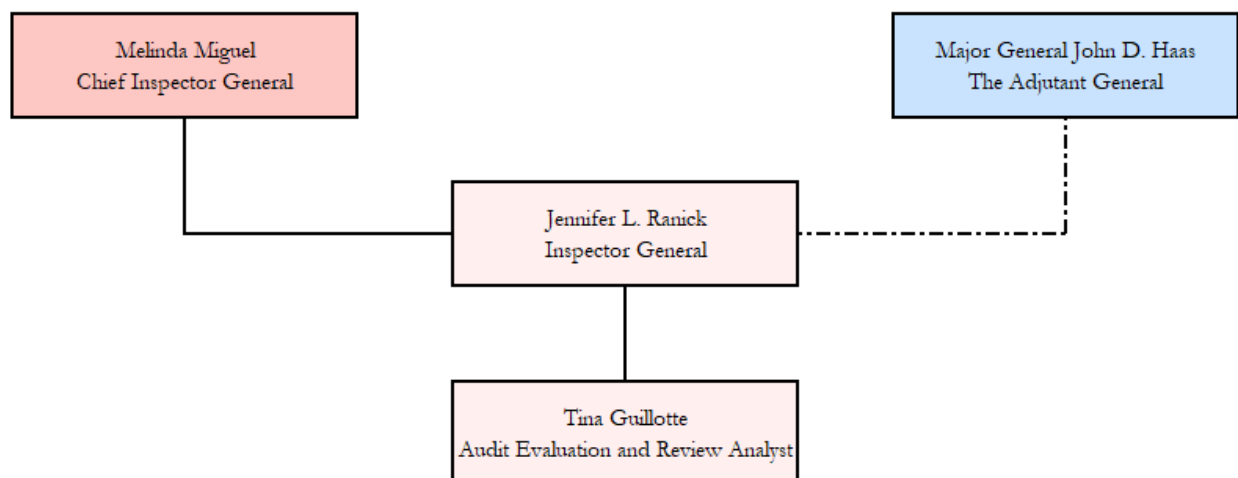
Pursuant to state law, the OIG has full, free, and unrestricted access to all Department activities, records, data, properties, functions, and personnel necessary to effectively carry out its responsibilities.

OIG RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 20.055, F.S., establishes the OIG within each state agency to provide a central point for coordination of, and responsibility for, activities that promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency in government. It is the statutory duty and responsibility of the Inspector General to:

- Advise in the development of performance measures, standards, and procedures for the evaluation of Department programs.
- Assess the reliability and validity of the information provided by the Department on performance measures and standards, and make recommendations for improvement, if necessary, before submission of such information pursuant to s. 216.1827.
- Review the actions taken by the Department to improve program performance and meet program standards and make recommendations for improvement, if necessary.
- Provide direction for, supervise, and coordinate audits, investigations, and management reviews relating to the programs and operations of the Department.
- Conduct, supervise, or coordinate other activities carried out or financed by the Department for the purpose of promoting economy and efficiency in the administration of, or preventing and detecting fraud and abuse in, its programs and operations.
- Keep The Adjutant General and the Chief Inspector General informed concerning fraud, abuses, and deficiencies relating to programs and operations administered or financed by the Department, recommend corrective action concerning fraud, abuses, and deficiencies, and report on the progress made in implementing corrective action.
- Ensure effective coordination and cooperation between the Auditor General, federal auditors, and other governmental bodies with a view toward avoiding duplication.
- Review, as appropriate, rules relating to the programs and operations of the Department and make recommendations concerning their impact.
- Ensure that an appropriate balance is maintained between audit, investigative, and other accountability activities.
- Comply with the *Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General* as published and revised by the Association of Inspectors General.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



The OIG is staffed with two positions: the Inspector General, who performs specific statutorily mandated duties, audits and investigations, and the Audit Evaluation and Review Analyst position,

who performs audits and assists the Inspector General in their activities. Consistent with statutory requirements, the Inspector General is under the general supervision of The Adjutant General and reports directly to the Governor's Chief Inspector General. This reporting structure supports the organizational independence of the OIG without undue influence.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION AND AFFILIATION

OIG personnel are highly qualified and bring various backgrounds and expertise to the Department. The collective experience spans a variety of disciplines including auditing, accounting, process improvement, investigations, and information systems.

OIG staff members continually seek to enhance their abilities and contributions to the office and the Department. Staff members have obtained certifications that demonstrate their knowledge, motivation, and commitment to the profession. The Inspector General is a Certified Inspector General, Certified Inspector General Investigator, and Certified Inspector General Auditor. The Audit Evaluation and Review Analyst is a Certified Inspector General Auditor.

OIG staff members participate in several professional organizations to maintain proficiency in their areas of expertise and certification. These associations allow them to establish and advance professional networks and participate in professional training and development activities.

OIG staff is affiliated with the following professional organizations:

- Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)
- National Association of Inspectors General (AIG)
- Florida Chapter of the Association of Inspectors General
- Association of Governmental Auditors (AGA)

INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY

The authority of the internal audit function is established under Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, and the OIG Internal Audit Charter. The responsibility of the internal audit function is to promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency within the Department. The OIG maintains organizational independence.

During the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the OIG continued its transition to conducting audits in conformance with the Global Internal Audit Standards (Standards) which became effective in January 2025. These standards require an internal audit plan that supports documented strategies, objectives, and risks. The standards require risk-based plans be established to determine the priorities of the internal audit activity, consistent with the Department's goals. The plan will show the individual audits to be conducted during each year and related resources to be devoted to the respective audits.

Audit responsibilities of the OIG include:

- Conduct compliance, information technology, performance and operational audits of the Department to identify and recommend corrective action for deficiencies or matters of noncompliance.
- Conduct consulting activities in order to provide independent advisory services to Department management.
- Assess the reliability and validity of Department performance measures.
- Ensure effective coordination and cooperation with the Office of the Auditor General and other governmental bodies to ensure proper coverage and minimize duplication of effort.
- Conduct risk assessments and audit plans.
- Monitor the implementation of the Department's response to internal and external audit reports.
- Develop and maintain a quality assurance and improvement program that covers all aspects of the internal audit activity, with an external assessment conducted every three years.
- Participate in enterprise projects and provide assistance as requested by the Chief Inspector General.

During the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the OIG had the following internal audit accomplishments:

Enterprise-wide Cybersecurity Audit of Data Protection

The objective of this audit was to evaluate Department controls and compliance with data protection requirements contained in the Florida Cybersecurity Standards (Rules 60GG-2.001 through 60GG-2.006, F.A.C.). The Florida Cybersecurity Standards establish cybersecurity standards that state agencies must comply with in the management and operation of state information technology (IT) resources. The rules are modeled after the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity. (See Rule 60 GG-2.001(1)(b), F.A.C., for additional information.) This engagement was an enterprise-wide audit performed in conjunction with the Executive Office of the Governor, Office of the Chief Inspector General. This audit resulted in one finding which was agreed upon by management.

Performance Measures

In accordance with Section 20.055 (2)(b), Florida Statutes, each agency's OIG is required to assess the reliability and validity of the information provided by the agency on performance measures and standards to be submitted to the Executive Office of the Governor (EOG). However, Chapter 2025-199, Laws of Florida, Section 118, specified that state agencies were not required to develop or post a Long-Range Program Plan (LRPP) for fiscal year 2026-2027, except in certain circumstances, including a major reorganization and/or a critical need to update the performance measures and standards. Neither exception was present at the Department, therefore the LRPP for fiscal year 2024-2025 remained in effect for fiscal year 2026-2027. To meet the requirements of the statute, the OIG asserted that the review and validation of the fiscal year 2024-2025 LRPP performance measures remained in effect as well.

Family Readiness

For the 2025-2026 fiscal year reporting period, the State of Florida Legislature did not approve funding for the program; therefore, the program had no transactions for purposes of the statutorily required audit or semi-annual review. However, Section 250.5206(6), Florida Statutes, requires the Inspector General of the Department to conduct a semi-annual review and an annual audit of the program and issue reports thereon. Consequently, a semi-annual letter was issued for the six-month period ending December 31, 2025 in January 2026, and a letter was issued for the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2026 in July 2026.

Because it is unknown as to whether the Florida Legislature will provide funding in the future, the program is considered dormant until such time when funding is provided. However, because Florida Statute requires the annual audit/semi-annual review to be conducted, the same process will be performed until such time as the statutory requirement is removed, or funding becomes available.

Joint Enlistment Enhancement Program (JEEP)

At the request of the State Quartermaster, we reviewed this program for its effectiveness and potential errors to ensure proper internal controls are in place for its future operation. The purpose of the program is to motivate Soldiers, Airmen, and retirees of the Florida National Guard to strengthen recruitment efforts and ultimately increase the force structure of the Florida National Guard. The JEEP program will help the Florida National Guard meet both its annual recruiting and retention goals. Although not funded during the 2025-2026 fiscal year, in coordination with the General Counsel and JAG, we provided considerations for its future operation.

Construction Contracts

The purpose of this audit was to review the construction contracting process for two new Readiness Centers located in Immokalee and Zephyrhills Florida. After the audit plan was approved, we learned an outside review of these two contracts was being conducted by Ernst and Young. In order to not duplicate effort, we removed this audit from our active plan with notification to The Adjutant General.

Camp Blanding Management Trust Fund (CBMTF)

Per Statute¹, the Camp Blanding Management Trust Fund is created within the Department. The department shall deposit funds generated by revenue-producing activities on the Camp Blanding Military Reservation into the trust fund, which shall be used to support required training of the Florida National Guard. This audit will determine whether the Trust Fund is being utilized as required by law. This audit was substantially completed during the year and the report will be released in the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Post Exchange and Cooper Hall

Per Statute², the Adjutant General shall establish a post exchange store for members of the Florida National Guard, their families, guests, and other authorized users. The post exchange store is located at Camp Blanding. Renovated and re-established for rentals on Camp Blanding is Cooper Hall. This audit will focus on both the post exchange and Cooper Hall to ensure they are operating according to their policies and procedures, there is proper safeguarding of assets, and their financial reporting is accurate and reliable. This audit is being carried over into the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

EXTERNAL AUDIT COORDINATION AND RESPONSE FOLLOW-UP

The OIG provides a single point of contact for external agencies that audit the Department. This is done to ensure effective coordination and cooperation between the Department and the Office of the Auditor General and other governmental bodies, and to minimize duplication of effort. We coordinate information requests and responses and assist in scheduling meetings for these entities. During the 2025-2026 fiscal year, we coordinated the following external engagements:

- Auditor General Statewide Financial Statement Audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025
- Auditor General Statewide Federal Awards Audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025
- Department of Financial Services Contract Compliance Audit for the fiscal year end June 30, 2025
- Ernst and Young State Fiscal Recovery Funds Audit for calendar year ending December 31, 2025

We conducted an internal follow-up to the Asset Management Audit completed during the fiscal year. We verified the completion of the recommendations, which resulted in the closure of the two findings.

REVIEW OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS FOR PRIOR YEAR AUDITS

Section 20.055(8)(c), Florida Statutes, requires the identification of each significant recommendation described in previous annual reports on which corrective action has not yet been completed. There have been no significant recommendations described in previous annual reports for which corrective action has not been implemented.

¹ Section 250.175 (3)(a), F.S.

² Section 250.10(2)(f)3, F.S.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND AUDIT PLAN

Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, requires the OIG to develop long-term and annual audit plans based on periodic risk assessments of the Department. This helps ensure the OIG is responsive to management concerns and that those activities determined to have the greatest risks are identified and scheduled for review.

A risk assessment was conducted which included all programs within the Department. The risk assessment process is used to evaluate potential work based upon the knowledge of the current events and accumulated knowledge of senior staff to ensure that the OIG's mission is met. The risk assessment methodology included:

- Reviewing program objectives, financial information, applicable laws, various reports including internal and external audit reports, and other available program data.
- Inquiring with directorates and key employees regarding the complexity of their operations and obtaining their insight into operations and associated risks.
- Inquiring whether there has been any change in management (chain of command) or organizational structure.
- Inquiring whether there have been any major changes in operations, programs, systems, or internal controls.
- Considering Information Technology systems and security.
- Considering the potential for loss or theft of assets, possibility of not meeting program objectives, and whether or not there were any health, safety or welfare issues for the public, employees, clients, users, or recipients of program benefits.
- Reviewing previous allegations and complaints and considering their relevance to a specific program or as a potential audit topic.

The information was ranked based on the unit's relative risk factors such as: size of budget and flow of funds; complexity and decentralization of operations; existence of certain internal control elements (i.e., policies and procedures, monitoring systems); experience of management; and the last time the program was audited by the OIG, the Auditor General, or other oversight authority.

Using the results of the risk assessment, an audit plan was prepared for work to be performed for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. By statute, the plan was submitted to The Adjutant General for approval with copies of the approved plan submitted to the Governor's Chief Inspector General and the Auditor General.

During the 2026-2027 fiscal year, audit resources will be allocated to the following engagements:

- Enterprise Audit on Supply Chain Risk Management
- Camp Blanding Management Trust Fund Completion
- Camp Blanding Post Exchange and Cooper Hall Events
- Educational Dollars for Duty Program
- Annually Recurring Projects

INTERNAL INTAKE & INVESTIGATION ACTIVITY

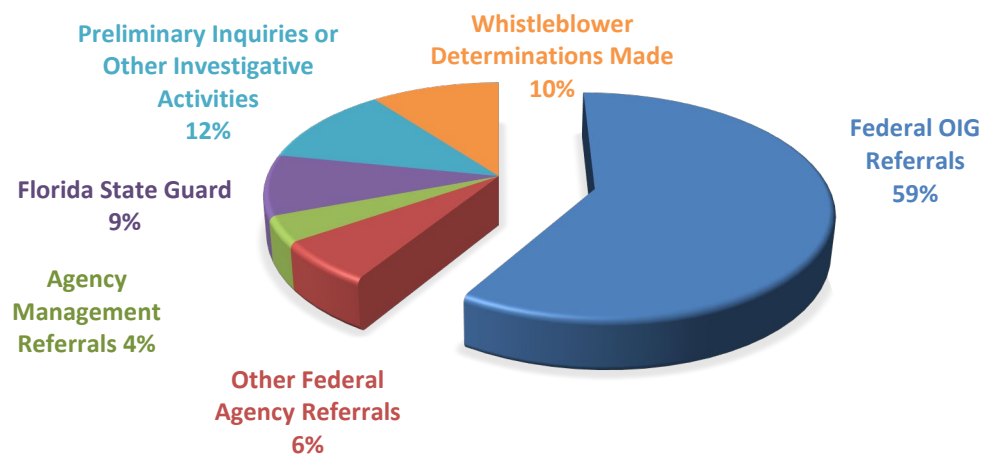
The OIG is responsible for the management and operation of the Department's internal investigations as they relate to state employees and programs. In addition, the Department has a Command Inspector General who is tasked with all Federal investigations relating to the soldiers and airmen themselves. Investigations are designed to deter, prevent, and eradicate fraud, waste, mismanagement, misconduct, and other abuses.

The investigative duties and responsibilities of the Inspector General, as defined in Section 20.055(7), Florida Statutes, include:

- Receiving complaints and coordinating activities of the Department in accordance with the Whistle-Blower's Act pursuant to Sections 112.3187-112.31895, Florida Statutes.
- Receiving and considering complaints that do not meet the criteria for an investigation under the Whistle-Blower's Act and conducting, supervising, or coordinating inquiries, investigations, or reviews, as the Inspector General deems appropriate.
- Reporting expeditiously and appropriately to the Department of Law Enforcement or other law enforcement agencies when the Inspector General has reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of criminal law.
- Conducting investigations and other inquiries free of actual or perceived impairment to the independence of the Inspector General or the OIG. This includes freedom from any interference with investigations, timely access to records, and other sources of information.
- Submitting timely final reports on investigations conducted by the Inspector General to the Chief Inspector General and the Adjutant General, except for whistle-blower's investigations, which are conducted and reported pursuant to Section 112.3189, Florida Statutes.

Intake Activities

The chart below depicts the complaint intake activities conducted during the 2025-2026 fiscal year:



During the current reporting period, the Inspector General received 70 complaints by telephone, letter, or e-mail. All complaints received were evaluated to determine if whistle-blower status, in accordance with Sections 112.3187-112.31895, Florida Statutes, the Whistle-blowers Act, was warranted. No complaints received during the 2025-2026 fiscal year reporting period were designated as whistle-blower status. We received 46 complaints which, based upon preliminary review, were determined to be of a Federal nature and, consequently, not within the jurisdiction of the Department's state OIG. These matters were referred to the Command Inspector General for the Florida National Guard. We also received complaints involving outside Federal Agencies and the Florida State Guard which were referred outside the Department.

There were no full investigations conducted during the fiscal year. However, we did resolve ten issues in a timely manner with no formal investigation deemed necessary. These complaints were reviewed and found to be unsubstantiated or resolved with coordination of management.

OTHER OIG ACTIVITIES

The OIG participates in numerous other activities, including internal quality assessments, OIG work plans, OIG annual reports, and other internal/external assistance activities. OIG staff proactively monitor certain Department activities and review patterns to determine if additional action is warranted. During fiscal year 2025-2026, the OIG performed the following activities.

Quality Assurance and Improvement Program

The OIG has established quality assurance processes in conformance with the Standards. This includes both internal and external quality assurance assessments of internal audit activities. Ongoing monitoring is an integral part of the supervision, review, and measurement of internal audit activities. Continuous monitoring activities have been established through engagement planning, supervision, and review, as well as standardized procedures and approvals. An internal assessment of the internal audit activity is conducted by the OIG annually. The internal assessment is submitted to The Adjutant General. An external assessment of the Internal Audit Section is conducted by the Auditor General in accordance with Section 11.45(2)(i), F.S., once every three years. The OIG conducted an internal assessment of the Internal Audit Section activities during FY 2024-2025 to evaluate conformance with the Standards. Based on the internal assessment results, the OIG has partially implemented the requirements specified under the Standards.

Computer Security Incident Response

The Inspector General participated as a non-technical observer for the annual Florida Digital Service (FLDS) Cybersecurity Incident Response Team (CSIRT) training exercise observing the Florida Department of Veteran's Affairs. The Inspector General provided feedback to FLDS on CSIRT soft skills such as team engagement, communication, coordination, teamwork, and compliance with policies and procedures.

Chief Audit Executive Roundtable

OIG staff participates in the Chief Audit Executive Roundtable. The mission of the Chief Audit Executive Roundtable is to promote the effective and efficient use of internal audit resources toward accountability, productivity, and enhancement of management control over operations. The Roundtable is a voluntary group composed of representatives from local companies and organizations, state agencies, and institutions of higher education with an internal audit function.