



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

August 31, 2023

The Honorable Joseph V. Cuffari
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Office of Inspector General
245 Murray Lane SW
Mail Stop 0305
Washington, DC 20528-0305

Ref: Inspection and Evaluation External Peer Review Final Report

Dear Dr. Cuffari:

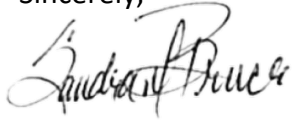
This required external peer review was conducted in accordance with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Inspection and Evaluation Committee guidance as contained in the CIGIE *Guide for Conducting External Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General*, December 2021. The peer review was conducted from April through August 2023.

The U.S. Department of Education, Office of Inspector General (ED OIG) assessed the extent to which the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General (DHS OIG) complied with the CIGIE *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation*, December 2020 (Blue Book). This assessment included a review of DHS OIG's internal policies and procedures implementing the Blue Book standards (the Office of Inspections and Evaluations' *Policy and Process Manual*, December 2021). It also included a review of five selected inspection and evaluation reports issued between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023, to determine whether the reports complied with the Blue Book standards and DHS OIG's internal policies and procedures. Enclosure 1 to this report describes the scope and methodology of the review.

ED OIG determined that DHS OIG's policies and procedures generally were consistent with all seven Blue Book standards addressed in the external peer review. Additionally, all five reviewed reports generally complied with the Blue Book standards and DHS OIG's policies and procedures.

Enclosure 2 to this report includes the response by DHS OIG to the draft peer review report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra D. Bruce". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'S'.

Sandra D. Bruce
Inspector General

Enclosures

Enclosure 1: Scope and Methodology

ED OIG selected the following five reports for review.

Ref No.	Final Report No.	Final Report Date	Report Title	Report Type
1	OIG-22-47	6/30/2022	Violations of ICE Detention Standards at Folkston ICE Processing Center and Folkston Annex	Inspection
2	OIG-22-68	9/13/2022	U.S. Border Patrol Faces Challenges Administering Post-Apprehension Outcomes Consistently Across Sectors	Evaluation
3	OIG-22-80	9/29/2022	Del Rio Area Struggled with Prolonged Detention, Consistent Compliance with CBP's TEDS Standards, and Data Integrity	Inspection
4	OIG-23-12	2/1/2023	ICE and CBP Deaths in Custody during FY 2021	Evaluation
5	OIG-23-19	3/3/2023	CISA Made Progress but Resources, Staffing, and Technology Challenges Hinder Cyber Threat Detection and Mitigation	Evaluation

ED OIG judgmentally selected the reports for review to provide representative coverage of the population of DHS OIG's inspection and evaluation reports issued from April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023,¹ including projects that were (a) conducted by DHS OIG's Office of Inspections and Evaluations and its Office of Audits, (b) managed and performed by different key personnel, and (c) conducted as inspections and as evaluations. The selected projects also included congressionally mandated work and projects that used the assistance of a contractor.

ED OIG conducted the peer review remotely from April through August 2023.

¹ DHS OIG issued 24 inspection and evaluation reports during the year. ED OIG limited its review to the population of reports that were conducted under the 2020 Blue Book (18 of the 24).

Enclosure 2: DHS OIG Comments to Draft Peer Review Report



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
Department of Homeland Security

Washington, DC 20528 / www.oig.dhs.gov

August 17, 2023

Sent via email

The Honorable Sandra D. Bruce
Inspector General
Department of Education

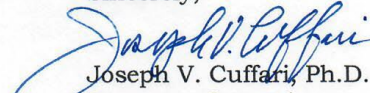
Dear Ms. Bruce,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) external peer review draft report on the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the period of April through August 2023.

Since my confirmation in 2019, ensuring all DHS OIG work meets all applicable quality standards has been, and remains, a top priority for our office. I appreciate your team's thorough review and determination that our work meets the CIGIE Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation (Blue Book).

Many thanks to your team for their professionalism and dedication to quality.

Sincerely,


Joseph V. Cuffari, Ph.D.
Inspector General