

**Inspector General for the Intelligence Community
Whistleblowing and Source Protection Program**

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UPDATE

(U) Over the last six months, the Executive Director (ExDir) for Whistleblowing and Source Protection made great strides in establishing the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community (IC IG) Whistleblowing Program. As outlined below, the ExDir has already processed several whistleblowing cases in an effort to protect both the whistleblower and classified information.

(U) **Reports of Fraud, Waste, and Abuse.** The IC IG has unique statutory authorities to receive complaints or information from any person regarding fraud, waste, or abuse within the programs and activities of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI). Given the DNI's responsibilities for the Intelligence Community, the IC IG can process whistleblower complaints from all IC personnel. The ExDir processed five complaints during the last six months, ensuring whistleblowers received protections for their lawful disclosures and their interactions with the IC IG office.

(U) **Title 50 "Urgent Concern" Congressional Reporting Process.** The ExDir for Whistleblowing and Source Protection also processes whistleblower complaints of "urgent concern" for the IC IG office. The IC IG has a Title 50 statutory reporting requirement akin to the Intelligence Community Whistleblower Protection Act (ICWPA) under Title 5 for reporting whistleblower "urgent concerns" to Congress. Under this procedure, the IC IG receives whistleblower complaints believed to be of an "urgent concern" as defined in the statute. The IC IG has 14 days to determine whether the complaint is an "urgent concern" and report the determination to the complainant and the DNI. Given the strict statutory time frames, the ExDir developed an intake and review process for the IC IG to allow key personnel to conduct a preliminary inquiry of the complaint. Further, the statute requires the IC IG to provide guidance to the whistleblower on how to report the matter, whether an "urgent concern" or not, to the cleared congressional staff. The ExDir processed three cases under this statutory construct this year.

(U) **PPD-19 IC IG External Review Board.** Under Presidential Policy Directive 19 (PPD-19), "Protections for Whistleblowers with Access to Classified Information," the IC IG conducts external reviews of reprisal complaints alleged to violate PPD-19 from IC personnel. The ExDir established processes and procedures for documenting IC personnel complaints, developed an internal docket for tracking complaints, and standardized forms and documents for IC personnel to use. These efforts have set a firm foundation for the IC IG appellate review process.

(U) **Reprisal Cases.** One of the most critical aspects of the IC IG Whistleblowing program is to ensure that IC personnel are not reprisal against for making protected disclosures. The ExDir has the level of expertise to ensure that reprisal cases are reviewed and investigated properly. The ExDir has one reprisal case this year.

(U) **Outreach and Training Events.** In addition to processing whistleblower cases and complaints, the ExDir established a robust outreach and training program to further educate IC personnel on whistleblower protections. This reporting period he conducted numerous outreach events to key IC stakeholders including the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Intelligence University, the ODNI Entrance On Duty Training Program, the National Insider Threat Task Force working group and the IC IG Annual Conference. In addition to these outreach events, the ExDir has been instrumental in developing whistleblower workforce training for the ODNI. This training will be for managers and employees alike to ensure all personnel are aware of whistleblower protections and how to properly disclose allegations of fraud, waste, abuse.