

## Association of Inspectors General 524 West 59<sup>th</sup> Street, 3532N New York, New York 10018

October 11, 2022

Salvatore Randazzo
Interim Inspector General
Office of Inspector General
Los Angeles Unified School District
333 South Beaudry Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90017

Dear Inspector General Randazzo,

The Association of Inspectors General (AIG) performed a Peer Review of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Office of Inspector General (OIG) at your request. The Peer Review Team (Team) evaluated the work of this office covering the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022. The Team performed the review during the week of October 3, 2022 at the LAUSD OIG office in Los Angeles, California. The Peer Review Team assessed the work of the Audit and Investigative Units for compliance with the Association of Inspectors General (AIG) Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General, and the United States General Accountability Office (GAO) Government Auditing Standards (Yellow Book) and the Quality of Standards for Investigations (Green Book). These standards are consistent with the qualitative standards by which your office have operated throughout the review period.

The two-person Peer Review Team consisted of the following individuals:

Team Leader:

Dr. Glenda B. Arrington, Inspector General

Investigations

Department of Defense Agency

Team Member:

Dr. Leigh R. Anderson, Chief of Staff

**Audits** 

Office of the Inspector General, Police Commission, Oakland, CA

On behalf of the Team, I am pleased to advise that we found no reportable instances of failure to meet these standards. It is our conclusion that the LAUSD OIG met all relevant AIG and GAO standards for the period under review.

The remainder of this letter sets forth the purpose, scope, and methodology of the Peer Review.

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## **Purpose**

The Peer Review Team (PRT) conducted an independent, qualitative review of the operations of the Audit and Investigative Units of the LAUSD OIG focusing on compliance with agreed-upon standards.

## Scope

The Peer Review covered the Audit and Investigation Units, resulting work products, and related file materials chosen from closed reports / activities between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2022. The Peer Review's scope also covered each unit's compliance with their relevant policy and process manuals and procedural guides; staff qualifications; and professional training requirements. The Peer Review assessed supervisory review and quality control over the work product, reporting of results, and the LAUSD OIG relationship and communications with outside agencies. Lastly, the PRT met with external stakeholders with whom the LAUSD OIG frequently work with, or who are the recipients of the LAUSD OIG work products.

## Method

The PRT generally followed the Peer Review/Qualitative Assessment Review Checklists developed by the AIG Peer Review Committee. These Checklists are based on the Council of the Inspectors General Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), AIG and/or GAO Quality Standards. The Team also called upon their own professional experience as senior executive managers of various Offices of Inspectors General and through their knowledge of and familiarity with best practices within the Inspectors General community.

Prior to the actual on-site review, the Team requested information from the LAUSD OIG, including but not limited to policy and procedures manuals, closed case logs, a list of issued reports, and a list of external stakeholders. The Team used this information to select the work products and related case materials that were ultimately reviewed.

On October 3, 2022, the Team held an entrance conference with you and your Deputy Inspectors General, during which time we explained the Peer Review scope, methodology, limitations, and proposed schedule. We delivered our request for sample review materials and documentation.

During the week, the Peer Reviewers conducted their fieldwork through examination of the selected case files. Peer Reviewers also interviewed Managers, Staff, and External Stakeholders. The Team also reviewed the personnel files, training and continuing education files, and all relevant policy and process manuals and procedural guides. All file requests were met fully and timely. The PRT also met with you and members of your staff to gauge their involvement and interaction with each other's unit as well as external stakeholders.

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All interviews were conducted one-on-one, privately and in confidence, without any limitation on scope or time. In some instances, the PRT requested follow-up interviews and explanations, as well as any supplemental documentation, for clarification purposes. The LAUSD OIG staff graciously accommodated the Team.

The Peer Review Team also independently chose several external stakeholders to interview. Meetings were arranged between the Peer Reviewers and the external stakeholders for the purpose of evaluating agency cooperation, effectiveness, and responsiveness. Stakeholders included representatives from the:

- LAUSD Office of General Counsel
- LAUSD Personnel Commission
- LAUSD Facilities Services Division
- LAUSD Board of Education
- Bond Oversight Committee
- US Department of Education Office of the Inspector General

Finally, the Team held an exit conference with you and your executive leadership on October 7, 2022, during which time the Team shared its conclusion that the Audit and Investigations units fully met AIG and/or GAO standards. Team members provided you with our observations and opinions gathered during the review. During the exit conference, the PRT provided several observations that did not limit or qualify the opinion of the Peer Review, but were shared with you and your leadership team as possible areas of consideration going forward. Throughout the week, we had productive discussions with LAUSD OIG members (from the leadership to professional staff) regarding their positive experiences from past Peer Reviews and their affirming opinions about the Peer Review process.

As noted above, it is the unanimous conclusion of the Peer Review Team that both the Audit and Investigation units met all current and relevant AIG and/or GAO standards for the review period.

On behalf of the AIG, I want to thank you for the confidence placed in the Association by requesting that we conduct this review. On behalf of the Peer Review Team, we would like to acknowledge and thank you and your designee, Maria Thomas, Quality Control & Assurance Specialist - Audits, for all of her efforts in the coordination and planning of this event and for ensuring that we were provided with the necessary records and tools for a thorough and smooth review.

Lastly, on behalf of the Team, we would like to recognize that in all of our interactions with your staff, we were shown the respect and cooperation that is the hallmark of a professional staff truly interested in a full and open review of their work. At the same time, this has been a learning experience for each member of the PRT, for which we wish to convey our sincerest thanks.

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Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Peer Review Team if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Dr. Glenda Arrington, Team Leader Association of Inspectors General AIG Peer Review for LAUSD-OIG October 2022

CC:

Dr. Leigh R. Anderson, Team Member Association of Inspectors General AIG Peer Review for LAUSD-OIG October 2022