

Architect of the Capitol Office of Inspector General THE OIG QUARTERLY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 6, DECEMBER 2024



FINDINGS FROM SEMIANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

In November, the OIG posted its second *Semiannual Report to Congress* (SAR) of the year. Below is a snapshot of the OIG's work during the SAR reporting period. Check out the full report for more findings like these and summaries of investigations, evaluations, audits, and more!

Reporting Period

April 1, 2024-September 30, 2024

40

Projects in
Progress at Start
of Reporting
Period

78

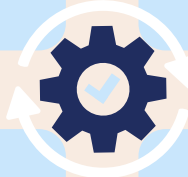
Projects Initiated
During Reporting
Period

77

Projects
Completed
During Reporting
Period

41

Projects in
Progress at End
of Reporting
Period



MESSAGE FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Welcome back to issue 6 of *The OIG Quarterly*!

It's no longer a surprise that this time of year brings about a rise in cases of identity theft. It's also no longer a surprise how quickly technology changes, and with that, just how quickly fraudsters can change their approach. To help combat identity theft, the OIG has created a whole new [resource](#) dedicated to help you better understand identify theft, how to spot when it may be happening to you, and how to protect yourself from it. This holiday season, be on the lookout for increased fraud via text messages as well as physical mail theft.

I'd also like to take a moment and thank everyone at the AOC for their continued support and collaboration in helping the OIG carry out its duties of deterring, detecting, and resolving instances of fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement. You all have helped make 2024 another successful year for the OIG — we truly could not have done our jobs without you and your assistance.

In this issue, we cover identity theft, provide more guidance on spotting time and attendance (T&A) fraud, welcome a new staff member, and more. We wish you a wonderful rest of your 2024 and an exciting start to 2025.

— Christopher Failla, CIG, CFE, AOC Inspector General



STAYING VIGILANT AGAINST IDENTITY THEFT

With holiday spending coming up, and after an [attempted paycheck identity theft scheme](#) to an AOC email as well as the MyEPP security breach we noted in the last issue, you should continue to be on alert for attempts to steal your identity and signs that your identity has been stolen. The AOC OIG recently added an [Identity Theft webpage](#) to provide AOC employees detailed information on identity theft, including warning signs, reporting and recovery.



<https://aocoig.oversight.gov/identity-theft-resources>

VISIT FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Identity theft happens when someone uses your personal or financial information without permission. Scammers may gain access to money in your name by stealing personal information through various means such as phishing and data breaches. They can then purchase items, take out loans, or apply for a benefit in your name. Scammers are becoming more advanced, such as using legitimate company logos in emails and using AI to imitate voices in phone calls to sound like people you know. Always carefully examine the sender or caller ID of an email, text, or phone number. In addition, as you increase your spending for the holidays, check your bank statements closely and report any unrecognized purchases.



T&A FRAUD, PART 2

In an [earlier issue](#), we defined time and attendance (T&A) fraud and gave some examples. To help you further identify potential T&A fraud, we've prepared a couple lists of red flags across two categories:

// Behavioral

- Rumors, social media posts, newspaper articles, and other sources showing the individual on vacation, working a second job, or other behavior while on an incorrect type of leave
- Refusal to take annual leave
- Possession of others' badges
- Frequent inability to reach the individual during work hours
- Performance lagging compared to those in similar job positions
- Irritability, suspiciousness, or defensiveness

// Documentary

- Unusual or excessive hours (e.g., hours on holidays/weekends when not expected)
- Doctor's notes that look edited (e.g., outlines of white boxes, typos, inconsistent font)
- Frequent mistakes in timesheets compared to supervisor knowledge
- Two distinct types of leave back-to-back (e.g., sick leave after annual leave)
- Multiple individuals' timesheets look identical (e.g., same exact hours each day across timesheets over time)



WELCOMING A NEW EMPLOYEE

Please join us in welcoming Ally Snyder to the OIG Audit Division. Ally, who's been with the AOC since 2017, previously worked in the Human Capital Management Division where she conducted programmatic reviews. In the OIG Audit Division, she'll be engaged in audit oversight of AOC programs and operations to deter and detect fraud, waste and abuse and examine operational effectiveness. Ally holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Economics and a Master's degree in HR Management.

Ally enjoys traveling, running, and spending time with her husband and two cats. Welcome to the OIG, Ally!

QUARTERLY OIG SNAPSHOT

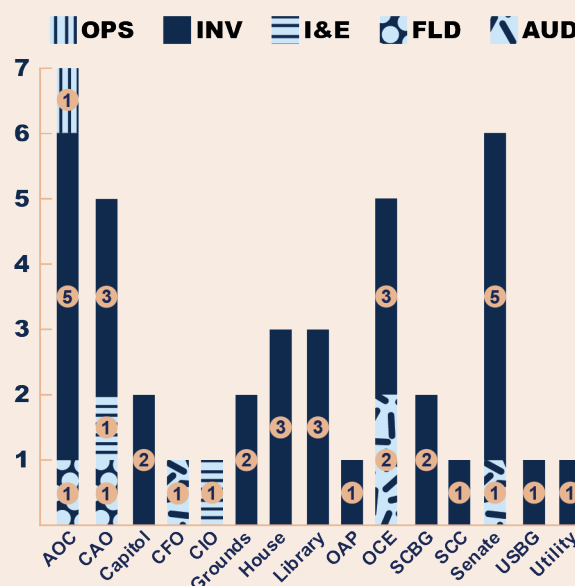
Check out our most recent reports:

- [2024 Statement of Management Opportunities and Performance Challenges](#)
- [Former AOC Employee Committed Destruction of Government Property Inside Library of Congress Adams Building \(2024-0004-INVI-P\)](#)
- [Audit of the Architect of the Capitol's Construction Division \(OIG-AUD-2024-06\)](#)



Scan the QR code to access these reports and more!

Active OIG Engagements by Jurisdiction



HAVE A REQUEST?

If there's a topic you're interested in learning more about or you think would benefit others, contact Charlotte.McCray@aoc.gov.

REPORT FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE



Confidential Toll-Free Hotline: 877.489.8583



OIG Website & Hotline Report: aocoig.oversight.gov



X: [@aocoig](https://twitter.com/aocoig)



LinkedIn: [@aocoig](https://www.linkedin.com/company/aocoig)



Email: hotline@aoc-oig.org



Visit: Fairchild Building, Ste. 518, 499 South Capitol St. SW, Washington, DC 20515

WHAT IS THE OIG?



Most federal agencies have an independent OIG charged with conducting independent audits, investigations, and inspections and evaluations as well as preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse. Through audits and evaluations that recommend improvements in operations and investigation of those who abuse the public trust or defraud government programs, the AOC OIG works to ensure the integrity of AOC programs and operations.