NASA Policy Directive 9800.1B requires NASA employees who observe crime, fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement to report the observation or allegation to the OIG. Likewise, NASA employees, contractors, grantees, programs, partners, and those receiving NASA funds are required to cooperate fully with the OIG and its designees. To report alleged violations, contact us through our Hotline.

**OIG HOTLINE**


https://oig.nasa.gov/hotline.html

NASA Office of Inspector General
P.O. Box 23089, L'Enfant Plaza Station
Washington, DC 20026

https://oig.nasa.gov

Since 2000

$1 BILLION

returned to the U.S. Government in recoveries, restitution, and fines

148

arrests

437

criminal convictions

and civil settlements

167

contractors and companies suspended or debarred from doing work with the Federal Government
As the law enforcement arm of NASA’s Office of Inspector General (OIG), the Office of Investigations (OI) is responsible for investigating crime, fraud, waste, abuse, mismanagement, and misconduct involving NASA programs, personnel, and resources. Typically, OI refers its findings to the Department of Justice for prosecution or to NASA management for corrective action.

Additionally, OI:

- Provides fraud awareness training to NASA employees, contractor personnel, grant recipients, and other NASA stakeholders;
- Serves as the principal point of contact within NASA for all criminal investigative activities and routinely coordinates with Federal, state, and local law enforcement counterparts regarding matters that potentially impact NASA;
- Identifies crime indicators and recommends countermeasures to NASA management that are designed to reduce the Agency’s vulnerability to fraud and other criminal activity; and
- Operates an OIG Hotline, which allows NASA employees, contractors, stakeholders, and the general public to report suspected fraud, waste, and abuse.

In furtherance of its crucial mission, OI employs an elite, highly trained cadre of special agents assigned to NASA Centers throughout the country. OI special agents are responsible for developing cases for criminal or civil prosecution or administrative action. Given the complexity of OI’s investigations, special agents must possess extensive knowledge of criminal law and relevant NASA policies and procedures, superior deductive reasoning capabilities, and exceptional communication skills. They are empowered to make arrests, carry concealed firearms, take sworn statements, conduct undercover operations, and execute search warrants in performance of their duties. Special agents also make recommendations for corrective action when investigations identify deficient policies or practices that expose NASA to potential fraud, waste, abuse, or criminal activity.

In addition to special agents, OI staff includes investigative auditors, computer forensic examiners, and support personnel.

Since 2000, OI investigations have resulted in more than $1 billion returned to the U.S. Government in recoveries, restitution, and fines. Working with state, local, and Federal law enforcement partners, OI participated in 148 arrests and secured over 437 criminal and civil convictions. In addition, 167 contractors and companies have been suspended or debarred from doing work with the Federal Government as a result of OI’s efforts.

OI prioritizes investigations that significantly impact NASA operations. At present, OI’s top priorities include:

- **Significant fraud** impacting crucial NASA operations, with particular emphasis on schemes impacting mission readiness or employee health and safety;
- **Bribery, kickbacks, gratuities, conflicts of interest, ethics violations, and other forms of corruption** that undermine public confidence;
- **Procurement and acquisition fraud, grant fraud, and other financial crimes** that deprive NASA of critically needed funds that would otherwise be utilized to finance key Agency initiatives;
- **Defective, substituted, untested, counterfeit, or substandard products** knowingly introduced into NASA’s acquisition system that affect the integrity of NASA systems and potentially endanger the lives of astronauts and other NASA employees;
- **Illegal export, diversion, transfer, proliferation, or theft of sensitive NASA technology or intellectual property**;
- **Computer intrusions and other cybercrimes** that result in compromises of NASA information systems or exfiltration of sensitive NASA data; and
- **Theft, sale, transfer, or illegal possession of space artifacts or other NASA-owned property deemed to possess significant historical value**.

NASA’s OIG was established by the Inspector General Act of 1978. The Act established OIGs as independent and objective entities within the executive branch. As such, NASA OIG:

- Has independent authority within the Agency to initiate and conduct audits and investigations;
- Has the authority to issue subpoenas to individuals or entities in order to obtain full access to documents and records relating to NASA;
- Is guaranteed access to all NASA records, reports, papers, documents, materials, data, and facilities; and
- Is afforded direct and prompt access to NASA’s Administrator for any purpose relating to the performance of OIG’s mission and responsibilities.