

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

 Smithsonian

SEMIANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

April 1, 2023 –
September 30, 2023



Smithsonian Institution Building
(The Castle)

Table 1. Semiannual reporting requirements of the *Inspector General Act*, as amended

Public Law Section	Reporting Requirement	Page
Section 4(a)(2)	Review of legislation and regulations	15
Section 5(a)(1)	Significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies	None
Section 5(a)(2)	Significant recommendations for corrective action	9
Section 5(a)(3)	Reports with corrective action not completed	9
Section 5(a)(4)	Matters referred to prosecutive authorities	None
Section 5(a)(5)	Information or assistance refused	None
Section 5(a)(6)	List of reports issued with dollar value of questioned costs and recommendations that funds be put to better use	None
Section 5(a)(7)	Summaries of significant reports	6
Section 5(a)(8)	Audit, inspection, and evaluation reports—questioned costs	None
Section 5(a)(9)	Audit, inspection, and evaluation reports—funds to be put to better use	None
Section 5(a)(10)(A)	Audit, inspection, and evaluation reports issued before the commencement of the reporting period with no management decision	None
Section 5(a)(10)(B)	Audit, inspection, and evaluation reports issued before the commencement of the reporting period with no management comment within 60 days	None
Section 5(a)(10)(C)	Audit, inspection, and evaluation reports issued before the commencement of the reporting period with unimplemented recommendations	9
Section 5(a)(11)	Significant revised management decisions	None
Section 5(a)(12)	Significant management decisions with which the Office of the Inspector General disagreed	None
Section 5(a)(13)	Information described under section 804(b) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996	None
Section 5(a)(14–16)	Peer reviews	12,13
Section 5(a)(17–18)	Investigative tables	14
Section 5(a)(19)	Reports on investigations with substantiated allegations involving senior employees	None
Section 5(a)(20)	Whistleblower retaliation	None
Section 5(a)(21)	Attempts to interfere with OIG independence	None
Section 5(a)(22)(A)	Inspections, evaluations, and audits that were closed and not disclosed to the public	None
Section 5(a)(22)(B)	Investigations involving senior employees that were closed and not disclosed to the public	None

Source: OIG assessment as of September 30, 2023.

Table of Contents

Message from the Inspector General	1
Smithsonian Institution Profile	3
Office of the Inspector General Profile	4
Audits	4
Counsel	4
Investigations	4
Operations	4
Vision	5
Mission	5
Authority	5
Core Values	5
Audits	6
Summary of Issued Audit Reports	6
Work in Progress	7
Other Audit Activities	8
Investigations	13
Highlights of Investigative Actions	13
Other Investigative Activities	13
Other OIG Activities	15

Tables

Table 1. Semiannual reporting requirements of the *Inspector General Act*, as amendedi
Table 2. Summary of audit recommendation activity during the semiannual reporting period 9
Table 3. Reports from previous periods with unimplemented recommendations 9
Table 4. Statistical summary of the Office of the Inspector General’s investigative results14

Figures

Figure 1. Crocheted Strawberry 2
Figure 2. Carte-de-visite of the Smithsonian Castle 3
Figure 3. Panda Palooza Banner15

Abbreviations

Castro	Castro & Company, LLC
CIGIE	Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
Cotton & Company	Cotton & Company Assurance and Advisory, LLC
KPMG	KPMG LLP
NASM	National Air and Space Museum
OHR	Office of Human Resources
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
PII	Personally Identifiable Information
The Smithsonian	Smithsonian Institution

Message from the Acting Inspector General

On behalf of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), I am pleased to submit this semiannual report to Congress. This report highlights the accomplishments achieved through our audit and investigative activities for the 6-month period ending September 30, 2023.

During this period, our office issued two audit reports and conducted work on nine ongoing audits. In one report, OIG's contractor evaluated the effectiveness of the Smithsonian Institution's (the Smithsonian) information security program in fiscal year 2022 and determined that it was operating effectively. The report also identified areas of improvement and made three recommendations to further strengthen the program.

OIG closed 7 recommendations during this reporting period, and 16 recommendations were unimplemented as of September 30, 2023. These unimplemented recommendations are aimed at improving the Smithsonian's programs and operations, such as by ensuring the following:

- that failures identified in information system baseline compliance scans are addressed according to Smithsonian policy;
- that inventory controls over museum collections are improved;
- that a system for hiring trust employees that collects and tracks applicant's race, national origin, sex, and disability status is established; and
- that procedures for hiring trust employees are updated and consistently implemented.

For more details on our audit work, see the Audits section of this report.

Our investigative activities continued to focus on and hold accountable those individuals whose actions harm the Smithsonian's programs and operations. During the reporting period, OIG opened 101 new complaints, closed 90 complaints, and completed 4 investigations. For more details on our investigative work, see the Investigations section of this report.

Our office will continue to conduct audits and investigations that help the Smithsonian Board of Regents and management meet their stewardship and fiduciary responsibilities, support congressional oversight, and provide information to the public.



Joan Mockeridge
Acting Inspector General

Figure 1: Crocheted Strawberry



Crocheted strawberry by artist Gina Gallina at the 2023 Smithsonian Folklife Festival.
Image by Kristin Quam.

Smithsonian Institution Profile

In 1846, Congress created the Smithsonian as a U.S. trust instrumentality to carry out the provisions of the will of James Smithson, an English scientist who left his estate to the United States to found “an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge.”¹

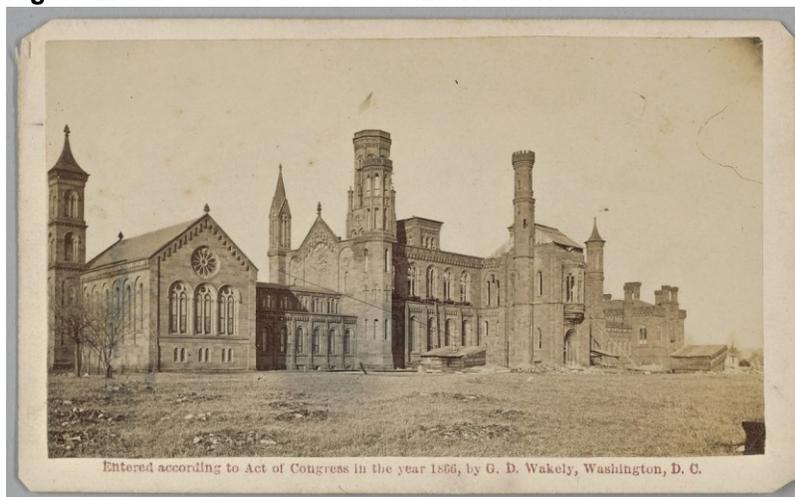
Today, the Smithsonian consists of 21 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, 13 education and research centers, and facilities around the world. The majority of Smithsonian locations are in Washington, D.C., but the Smithsonian works in a wide variety of disciplines in more than 140 countries. The Smithsonian employs approximately 6,600 staff (including about 3,700 federal employees).

The Smithsonian is the steward of an extensive collection. The total number of objects and specimens in the collections is estimated at 157 million, of which about 148 million are scientific specimens at the National Museum of Natural History. Researchers at the Smithsonian and around the world use these collections in their research. Only a small portion of the Smithsonian’s collections is on display in the museums at any given time.

The Smithsonian made available online more than 8 million collection images, audio, videos, and blog posts. Through Smithsonian Open Access, more than 4.9 million digital items have been released into the public domain for the public to use for any purpose, free of charge.

A major portion of the Smithsonian’s operations is funded by federal appropriations. In addition to federal appropriations, the Smithsonian receives private gifts and revenue from grants and contracts, and earns income from investments and its various business activities. Business activities include Smithsonian magazines and books; television programs; an online store; licensed products; travel programs; and museum theaters, shops, and food services.

Figure 2. Carte-de-visite of the Smithsonian Castle



This carte-de-visite depicts the Smithsonian Castle building photographed showing a southwest view. Photograph by George D. Wakely, born 1823.

Collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Gift from the Liljenquist Family Collection.

¹ A trust instrumentality is a government agency or corporation that acts independently to carry out work for the public good.

Office of the Inspector General Profile

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is headed by the Inspector General, who is appointed by, reports to, and is under the general supervision of the Board of Regents. OIG is located in Washington, D.C. As of September 30, OIG consisted of 17 staff: Assistant Inspector General for Audits (also serving as Acting Inspector General), Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, Assistant Inspector General for Operations, Counsel to the Inspector General, 11 auditors, 1 investigator, and 1 administrative officer.

The OIG's organizational structure is described below.

Audits

The Office of Audits conducts audits of the Smithsonian's existing and proposed programs and operations to help improve their efficiency and effectiveness. To guide its work, the office develops a risk-based annual audit plan. The Office of Audits also actively monitors the external audits of the Smithsonian's financial statements.

Counsel

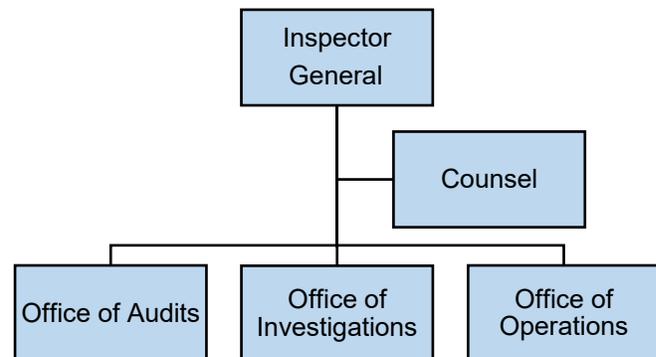
The Counsel to the Inspector General provides independent legal advice to the Inspector General and OIG staff.

Investigations

The Office of Investigations pursues allegations of waste, fraud, abuse, and gross mismanagement; misconduct by employees, contractors, or others who affect the Smithsonian; and criminal violations of law that have an impact on the Smithsonian's programs and operations. It refers matters to federal, state, and local prosecutors for action whenever the Inspector General has reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of criminal law. The Office of Investigations also presents any administrative misconduct to management for possible disciplinary action.

Operations

The Office of Operations provides technical and administrative support. It is responsible for OIG administrative matters, such as budgeting, procurement, human resources, information technology, and measuring organizational performance.



OIG's vision, mission, authority, and core values are described below.²

Vision

OIG's vision is to provide the highest quality oversight through timely action, independent and objective reporting, and an overall commitment to excellence.

Mission

OIG's mission is to promote the efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity of the Smithsonian's programs and operations through independent, objective audits and investigations and to keep stakeholders fully and currently informed.

Authority

The *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended in 1988 (P.L. 100-504), established the Smithsonian OIG. The act requires OIG to perform the following functions:

- Conduct audits and investigations relating to the Smithsonian's programs and operations.
- Promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within the Smithsonian.
- Review and make recommendations regarding existing and proposed programs and operations.
- Prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse in the Smithsonian's programs and operations.
- Report expeditiously to the Attorney General whenever the Inspector General has reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of criminal law.
- Keep the Board of Regents and Congress fully and currently informed of serious problems in the Smithsonian's programs and operations.

Core Values

Consistent with its mission and responsibilities, OIG's efforts are guided by four core values: accountability, excellence, integrity, and teamwork. These core values reflect the most important qualities needed for success and are reflected in all of the work done by OIG.

Accountability. A commitment to promoting accountability in the Smithsonian and taking personal accountability for actions and decisions within OIG.

Excellence. A commitment to providing timely, relevant, and high-quality products and services.

Integrity. A commitment to operating under the highest ethical principles by conducting our work in an honest, objective, and independent manner.

Teamwork. A commitment to working together to collectively achieve OIG's mission through respectful and professional interactions among ourselves and others.

² The OIG vision, mission, goal and objectives, and core values are part of the *OIG Strategic Plan, Fiscal Years 2020–2024*, available on the OIG website at <https://oig.si.edu/about/office-inspector-general>

Audits

Audit work focuses on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Smithsonian's programs and operations. During this semiannual period, OIG issued two reports, conducted work on nine ongoing audits, and closed seven recommendations.

Summary of Issued Audit Reports

Below is a summary of the audit reports issued during this reporting period, along with links to the reports.

[Information Security: Fiscal Year 2022 Evaluation of Smithsonian Institution's Information Security Program \(OIG-A-23-07, May 15, 2023\)](#)

OIG contracted with Castro & Company, LLC, (Castro) to evaluate the effectiveness of the Smithsonian's information security program in fiscal year 2022. Two major applications were reviewed.

For fiscal year 2022, Castro found that the Smithsonian's information security program was effective overall because it was operating at a managed and measurable level (Level 4) in four of the five cybersecurity functions (Protect, Detect, Respond, and Recover) and at a consistently implemented level (Level 3) for the fifth function, Identify, which includes risk management and supply chain risk management.

Castro noted that the Smithsonian continues to make improvements to their information security program. For example, the Assessment and Authorization policies and procedures were updated to include additional centralized review of the documentation and training for personnel responsible for key activities. The Smithsonian increased centralized monitoring with the use of various dashboards and key performance indicators, and also refined the tools used by the Security Operations Center to identify and respond to potential threats.

Castro also noted areas where the information security program can be further improved related to contingency plans for security controls for operating within the cloud. In addition, the Smithsonian has developed a formal IT Supply Chain Risk Management Strategy and implemented many, but not all, of the high-priority milestones.

Castro made three recommendations to strengthen the Identity cybersecurity function. Management concurred with all three recommendations.

[Independent Accountant's Report on the Smithsonian Enterprises Net Gain for Fiscal Year 2022 \(OIG-A-23-08, June 1, 2023\)](#)

An independent public accounting firm, KPMG LLP (KPMG), issued its independent accountants' report on the Smithsonian Enterprises Statement of Net Gain as of September 24, 2023. KPMG concluded that no material modifications should be made to the Statement of Net Gain to be in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. An OIG auditor served as the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative to monitor this audit.

Work in Progress

At the end of the period, OIG had nine audits in progress, as described below.

[Assessment of Detection and Response Capabilities for Information Security Incidents](#)

OIG auditors are evaluating the Smithsonian's capabilities to prevent, detect, and respond to information security incidents.

[Audit of the Collections Care and Preservation Fund](#)

OIG auditors are determining the extent to which the Smithsonian has effective controls over the process to award money from the Collections Care and Preservation Fund to collecting units and ensure that the funds are spent for their intended purposes.

[Audit of the Smithsonian's Information Security Program, Fiscal Year 2023](#)

An OIG auditor is monitoring Castro in conducting an audit to evaluate the Smithsonian's information security program for fiscal year 2023.

[Contract Modification Process for the National Air and Space Museum \(NASM\) Revitalization Project](#)

An OIG auditor is monitoring Cotton & Company Assurance and Advisory, LLC, (Cotton & Company) in conducting an audit of the contract modification process for the NASM revitalization project. Cotton & Company is determining whether contract modifications for this project were reasonable, necessary, within the scope of the contract, and effectively awarded and administered.

[Effectiveness of Controls over Sole-source Purchase Orders](#)

OIG auditors are assessing the extent to which the Smithsonian controls over sole-source purchase orders are effective in ensuring compliance with the Smithsonian's procurement policies and procedures.

[Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Statements Audits](#)

As part of the Smithsonian's annual financial audits, an OIG auditor is monitoring KPMG in conducting a review of Smithsonian Enterprises' net gain. Smithsonian Enterprises manages the commercial activities of the Smithsonian.

[Smithsonian's Management and Allocation of the Rebates Received from the U.S. General Services Administration SmartPay Program](#)

OIG auditors are assessing the extent to which the Smithsonian has developed and implemented the policies and procedures for rebates received from the U.S. General Services Administration SmartPay Program.

[Subcontracting Award Process for the NASM Revitalization Project](#)

An OIG auditor is monitoring Cotton & Company in conducting an audit of the subcontracting award process for the NASM revitalization project. Cotton & Company is determining whether the general contractor has awarded subcontracts in accordance with the solicitations and competition requirements stipulated in the Smithsonian's policies and procedures and the NASM construction contract.

[The Smithsonian's Use and Reporting of Covid Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Funding](#)

OIG auditors are assessing whether the Smithsonian (1) expended Covid Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act funding in accordance with applicable laws, policies, and procedures, and (2) accurately reported the use of those funds in the Federal Procurement Data System and [USASpending.gov](https://www.usaspending.gov).

Other Audit Activities

[Status of Recommendations](#)

Smithsonian management made progress implementing the recommendations from audit reports that we issued in prior semiannual reporting periods. As a result, OIG closed 7 recommendations during the past 6 months. Table 2 on the following page provides summary statistics for OIG recommendations during this semiannual reporting period, as of September 30, 2023.

Table 2. Summary of audit recommendation activity during the semiannual reporting period, as of September 30, 2023

Status of Recommendations	Number of Recommendations
Open at the beginning of the period	20
Issued during the period	3
<i>Subtotal</i>	23
Closed during the period	7
Open at the end of the period	16

Source: OIG assessment as of September 30, 2023.

Table 3 summarizes the audit reports from previous periods that have 15 unimplemented recommendations and their target completion, as of September 30, 2023. None of these recommendations involve cost savings.

Table 3. Reports from previous periods with unimplemented recommendations, as of September 30, 2023

Report Summary	Unimplemented Recommendations
<p><i>Human Resource Management: Smithsonian Needs to Strengthen Its Procedures for Hiring Trust Employees When Not Using the Federal Process (OIG-A-21-01, October 9, 2020)</i></p> <p>This audit examined to what extent the Office of Human Resources (OHR) and the units comply with Smithsonian policies and procedures for hiring employees funded by the Smithsonian Trust, not by federal appropriations.</p> <p>To help ensure a fair and consistent process for hiring Trust employees when not using the federal process, OIG made three recommendations. Management concurred with all three recommendations, and all three remain unimplemented.</p>	<p>The Director of OHR should do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Update Trust hiring policies and procedures; (2) Establish a system that collects and tracks applicant’s race, national origin, sex, and disability status; and (3) Develop and implement procedures to monitor OHR and the units’ compliance with policies and procedures. <p>Target completion date: January 31, 2024</p>
<p><i>Collections Management: Oversight and Monitoring Needed to Ensure That Collecting Units Have an Effective Inventory Process (OIG-A-22-03, February 25, 2022)</i></p> <p>This audit assessed the extent to which 19 collecting units had developed and implemented cyclical inventory plans in accordance with Smithsonian requirements.</p> <p>OIG made two recommendations. Management concurred with both recommendations, and they remain unimplemented.</p>	<p>The Deputy Secretary should do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Establish and implement ongoing monitoring activities and separate evaluations (such as periodic compliance reviews) that provide senior management with reasonable assurance that each collecting unit is complying with Smithsonian Directive 600 and the Smithsonian Directive 600 <i>Implementation Manual</i> requirements for developing and implementing an inventory plan, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The National Collection Program Director periodically advises senior

Report Summary	Unimplemented Recommendations
	<p>management on the effectiveness and implementation of inventory plans, ensuring that each collecting unit has an inventory plan that includes all required information and is being periodically reviewed.</p> <p>b. Directors approve their unit’s inventory plan and ensure that it is appropriate to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the nature, characteristic, and size of the collections under the unit’s control; (2) staff resources; and (3) unit requirements. <p>c. Directors receive reports on the results of inventories, as required, and necessary to monitor the plan’s implementation.</p> <p>(2) Develop and implement detailed procedures for annual reports on compliance with Smithsonian Directive 600, including the required content of these reports (such as the inventory plan’s approval and review date and the extent to which the inventory schedule was implemented) and to whom the reports should be submitted.</p> <p>Target completion date: December 1, 2023</p>
<p><u><i>Fiscal Years 2021 Evaluation of the Smithsonian Institution’s Information Security Program (OIG-A-22-05, June 24, 2022)</i></u></p> <p>This audit assessed the effectiveness of the Smithsonian’s information security program in fiscal year 2021. Three major applications were reviewed: Smithsonian network, Digital Asset Management System, and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute’s payroll system.</p> <p>Castro made nine recommendations to strengthen three cybersecurity functions. Management concurred with all nine recommendations, and one remains unimplemented.</p>	<p>The Director of IT Security should develop, document, and fully implement controls to ensure that failures identified in baseline compliance scans are addressed in accordance with established Smithsonian policy.</p> <p>Target completion date: October 31, 2023</p>
<p><u><i>Acquisition Management: Improvements Needed in Monitoring and Oversight of Purchase Card Use (OIG-A-23-01, November 18, 2022)</i></u></p>	<p>The Director of the OCon&PPM should do the following:</p> <p>(1) Develop and implement procedures to ensure that purchase card transactions are only approved by the approving officials</p>

Report Summary	Unimplemented Recommendations
<p>The objective of this audit was to determine whether the Smithsonian has effective controls over purchase cards.</p> <p>OIG made seven recommendations to strengthen the management and oversight of purchase cards. Management concurred with the recommendations, and all of them remain unimplemented.</p>	<p>and that all transactions are fully documented.</p> <p>(2) Develop and implement procedures to ensure that training records are complete and accurate so initial and refresher training can be effectively and efficiently enforced.</p> <p>(3) Develop and implement procedures to enforce compliance with initial and refresher training requirements for purchase cardholders and approving officials, such as (a) following up with individuals who are not in compliance, (b) suspending or canceling purchase cards, or (c) revoking delegated authority for approving officials who did not comply with refresher training requirements.</p> <p>(4) Develop and implement procedures to monitor inactive cardholder accounts that may need to be closed because cardholders have separated from employment or transferred to another unit.</p> <p>(5) Demonstrate a sustained and effective compliance review process to monitor whether Purchase Card Program duties and responsibilities are performed effectively, procedures are being followed, and internal controls continue to be effective.</p> <p>(6) Develop and implement procedures that identify the specific reports that will be used for monitoring purchase card use, describe how flagged transactions will be evaluated and addressed, and establish the documentation that needs to be retained.</p> <p>(7) Develop and implement a requirement for periodically reporting information to the Director of OCon&PPM that will assist in the oversight of the purchase cards. The report should provide statistical and narrative information on the use and management of the Purchase Card</p>

Report Summary	Unimplemented Recommendations
	<p>Program, such as compliance with training requirements, the results of compliance reviews, and the monitoring of purchase card transactions. In addition, the report should determine whether the program's internal controls continue to be effective.</p> <p>Target completion date: October 31, 2024</p>
<p><u><i>Information Security: Report on the Effectiveness of the Smithsonian Privacy Program and Practices, Fiscal Year 2022 (OIG-A-23-02, November 30, 2022)</i></u></p> <p>This audit assessed the effectiveness of the Smithsonian's privacy program and practices.</p> <p>Castro made three recommendations to enhance security controls over sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Management concurred with the recommendations, and two of them remain unimplemented.</p>	<p>(1) The Chief Information Officer should develop and implement a formal process to identify, document, and periodically test security controls for all systems (major and minor) that collect, process, store, or transmit sensitive PII. Where systems processing sensitive PII are considered minor, documentation should clearly identify what controls are being inherited from other systems and what controls are specific to the system.</p> <p>(2) The Smithsonian Privacy Officer should update the existing privacy directive to establish procedures for how periodic reviews of PII will be conducted and by whom.</p> <p>Target completion date: October 31, 2023</p>

Source: OIG assessment as of September 30, 2023.

Audit Peer Review

Government Auditing Standards require audit organizations to (1) establish and maintain a system of quality control designed to provide the audit organization with reasonable assurance that the organization and its personnel comply with professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements, and (2) undergo external peer reviews by independent reviewers every three years. On September 8, 2023, the Library of Congress OIG completed the most recent peer review, which is posted on our website. The Smithsonian OIG received the highest peer review rating of "pass." As a result, our office has reasonable assurance that our audits complied with professional standards in all material respects. We remain committed to maintaining an effective system of quality controls and improving our operations.

Investigations

At the start of the reporting period, OIG had 25 open complaints and 14 ongoing investigations. During the reporting period, OIG received 101 new complaints, closed 90 complaints, converted 5 complaints to investigations, and completed 4 investigations. At the end of the reporting period, there were 31 open complaints and 15 ongoing investigations.

Highlights of Investigative Actions

[Alleged Preferential Treatment and Improper Sole-source Selection by a Senior Employee](#)

OIG investigated an allegation that a senior employee violated contracting policy and procedures by awarding a sole-source procurement to a friend. OIG did not substantiate the allegations.

Other Investigative Activities

[Investigative Peer Review](#)

The Office of Investigations complies with guidelines established by the U.S. Attorney General. On February 27, 2015, the Government Publishing Office OIG completed a peer review of the Smithsonian OIG investigative program based on the *Quality Assessment Review Guidelines for Investigative Operations of Federal Offices of Inspector General*. The Smithsonian received the highest peer review rating. Our next investigative peer review is scheduled for fall 2024.

Table 4 on the following page contains a statistical summary of OIG's investigative results during the semiannual reporting period.

Table 4. Statistical summary of the Office of the Inspector General’s investigative results during the semiannual reporting period ending September 30, 2023

Investigative Activity or Result	Number or Amount
Caseload	
Investigations pending at beginning of reporting period	14
Investigations opened during the reporting period	5
<i>Subtotal</i>	19
Investigations closed during the reporting period	4
Investigative reports issued	0
Investigations carried forward	15
Referrals for prosecution	
Referrals to the Department of Justice	0
Referrals to state and local prosecuting authorities	0
Indictments and criminal information from current period referrals	0
Indictments and criminal information from prior period referrals	0
Successful prosecutions	
Convictions	0
Fines	0
Probation	0
Confinement	0
Monetary restitutions	0
Forfeiture of assets and seized evidence	0
Administrative actions	
Terminations	0
Resignations	0
Reprimands or admonishments	0
Suspensions	0
Monetary loss prevented	0
Value of items recovered	0

Source: OIG investigative activity statistics as of September 30, 2023.

Other OIG Activities

Legislative and Regulatory Review

In accordance with the *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended, OIG monitored and reviewed legislative and regulatory proposals for their impact on the Smithsonian's programs and operations. Additionally, the Counsel to the Inspector General monitored congressional bills and issues relating to the inspector general community. OIG also reviewed draft Smithsonian policies for their impact on OIG operations.

Other Activities

OIG remained actively involved with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), a statutory council of federal inspectors general that promotes collaboration on issues of integrity, economy, and efficiency that transcend individual agencies. The Acting Inspector General is a member of three CIGIE committees (Audit, Investigations, and Legislation), and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group. The Counsel to the Inspector General co-leads the Smaller OIG Counsel Working Group. OIG staff also serve on the Council of Counsels to Inspectors General; the Federal Audit Executive Council Financial Statement Audit Network and Quality Management Committee; the OIG Freedom of Information Act Working Group; CIGIE Connect, Collaborate, and Learn; the CIGIE Technology Committee; the CIGIE Mentoring Program; and the Shared Services Working Group.

OIG staff also participated in the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Institute of Internal Auditors, and ISACA.³

Figure 3: Panda Palooza Banner



The Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute celebrated its three giant pandas from September 23 to October 1 before the bears depart for China later in 2023.

³ ISACA is an international professional association focused on IT governance.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL



OIG's Mission

Our mission is to promote the efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity of the Smithsonian Institution's programs and operations through independent and objective audits and investigations and to keep stakeholders fully and currently informed.

Reporting Fraud, Waste, and Abuse to OIG Hotline

OIG investigates allegations of waste, fraud, abuse, gross mismanagement, employee and contractor misconduct, and criminal and civil violations of law that have an impact on Smithsonian Institution programs and operations.

If requested, anonymity is assured to the extent permitted by law. Although you may remain anonymous, we encourage you to provide us with your contact information. The ability to gather additional information from you may be the key to effectively pursuing your allegation.

To report fraud and other serious problems, abuses, and deficiencies, you can do one of the following:

Send an email to: oighotline@oig.si.edu.

Visit OIG's website: <https://oig.si.edu>.

Write to:

Office of the Inspector General

Smithsonian Institution

P.O. Box 37012, MRC 524

Washington, D.C. 20013-7012.

Obtaining Copies of Reports

To obtain copies of Smithsonian Institution OIG reports, go to OIG's website: <https://oig.si.edu> or the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency's website: <https://oversight.gov>.