

MEMORANDUM
September 10, 2019



U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF HOUSING
AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

To: Kyle Roberts
Deputy Inspector General for Evaluation
Federal Housing Finance Agency, Office of Inspector General

Angela Choy
Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation
Federal Housing Finance Agency, Office of Inspector General

Brian Baker
Acting Deputy Inspector General for Compliance
Federal Housing Finance Agency, Office of Inspector General

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian T. Pattison', written over the printed name and title of the sender.

From: Brian T. Pattison
Assistant Inspector General for Evaluation
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General

Subject: External Peer Review Final Report

The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) External Peer Review Team (review team) assessed the extent to which the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Office of Evaluations (EVL) and Office of Compliance and Special Projects (COM) met seven standards from the CIGIE Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation (Blue Book); specifically, the extent to which EVL and COM met Blue Book standards for quality control, planning, data collection and analysis, evidence, records maintenance, reporting, and followup. This assessment included a review of EVL's and COM's policies and procedures manuals' implementation of the seven Blue Book standards.¹ It also included a review of selected evaluation and compliance reports issued during calendar year 2018 to determine whether the reports complied with the covered Blue Book standards and each office's internal policies and procedures at that time.²

The review team determined that EVL's policies and procedures met the seven Blue Book standards. Of the three reports reviewed, all met the Blue Book standards. However, one EVL report reviewed did not comply with EVL's policies and procedures for planning.

The review team determined that COM's policies and procedures met the seven Blue Book standards. Of the three reports reviewed, all met the Blue Book standards and complied with COM's policies and procedures.

¹ The review team examined the most recent releases of each manual: The Office of Evaluations Policies and Procedures Manual, December 2018, and the Office of Compliance and Special Projects Policies and Procedures Manual, July 2018.

² The Office of Evaluations Policies and Procedures Manual, September 2017, and the December 2018 revision, as appropriate, and the Office of Compliance and Special Projects Policies and Procedures Manual, January 2018, and the June 2018 and July 2018 revisions, as appropriate

The review team has issued a letter (enclosure 1), which contains specific findings, observations, suggestions, and best practices identified during the peer review. FHFA OIG management officials provided a response to this letter (enclosure 2).

This external peer review was conducted in accordance with the CIGIE Inspection and Evaluation Committee guidance as contained in the CIGIE Guide for Conducting Peer Reviews of Inspection and Evaluation Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General. The peer review was conducted from March 27, 2019, through September 10, 2019.

Enclosures:

Enclosure 1 – Letter of Comments, Scope, and Methodology

Enclosure 2 – FHFA OIG Comments to Draft Report