Summary of Administrative Inquiry

The Office of Inspector General’s Review of Alleged Badgering and Harassment of FHFA Employees that Play an Important Role in the Agency’s Internal Control Framework

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA or Agency) Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted an administrative inquiry into allegations contained in an anonymous hotline complaint. These allegations raised concerns about: (1) a conflict of interest on the part of an FHFA senior official with respect to an internal control function under his authority; and (2) FHFA employees badgering and harassing FHFA staff who play an important role in the Agency’s internal control framework.

We previously conducted an inquiry into the virtually identical allegation of conflict of interest on the part of the named FHFA senior official. Our Office of Investigations concluded, at the end of its inquiry, that it was unable to substantiate the allegations and closed the matter.

Our inquiry focused on the allegation of badgering and harassment of FHFA personnel who play an important role in the Agency’s internal control framework. Because an effective internal control framework is critical to FHFA’s ability to achieve its mission and objectives, we recognize that badgering and harassment of such personnel, if substantiated, could undermine the effectiveness of the overall internal control framework. We interviewed relevant FHFA employees and reviewed Agency records and pertinent materials as part of our inquiry. Based on this work, we were unable to substantiate the allegation.