



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 12, 2017

The Honorable Laura S. Wertheimer
Inspector General
Federal Housing Finance Agency
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Subject: Opinion Letter on the Quality Assessment Review of the Investigative Operations of the Federal Housing Finance Agency Office of the Inspector General

Dear Ms. Wertheimer:

We have completed our review of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative functions of the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for the period ending June 30, 2017. Our review was conducted from June 26 – June 29, 2017, in conformity with the Quality Standards for Investigations and the Quality Assessment Review Guidelines established by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), and the Attorney General's Guidelines for Office of Inspectors General with Statutory Law Enforcement Authority, as applicable.

We reviewed compliance with the FHFA OIG's system of internal policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. Our review was conducted at the FHFA OIG headquarters and the Washington Field Office of the Northeastern Region, both located in Washington, DC. We performed inventory checks of property issued to 14 special agents and conducted 15 interviews of special agents, support staff, and senior agency officials. We also reviewed 21 case files for investigations closed between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017, and digital analysis reports. Additionally, we conducted a review of evidence and stored weapons located at FHFA OIG headquarters, and reviewed training, personnel, and firearms records on file for FHFA OIG's special agents.

In performing our review, we have given consideration to the prerequisites of Section 6(e) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, (IG Act) and Section 812 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub.L. 107-296). Those documents authorize law enforcement powers for eligible personnel of each of the various offices of presidentially appointed Inspectors General. Those powers may be exercised only for activities authorized by the IG Act, other statutes, or as expressly authorized by the Attorney General.

In our opinion, the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative function of FHFA OIG in effect for the year ending June 30, 2017, is in compliance with the quality standards established by the CIGIE and the applicable Attorney General guidelines. These safeguards and procedures provide reasonable assurance of conforming with professional standards in the planning, execution and reporting of its investigations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hubert T. Bell".

Hubert T. Bell
Inspector General

cc: Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice