

# **DESCRIPTION OFFICE OF STATE** INSPECTOR GENERAL

The **mission** of the of the Office of State Inspector General is to deter, detect, prevent, and eradicate fraud, waste, misconduct, and abuse in programs, operations, and contracting of executive agencies.

> Annual Report Fiscal Year 2023-2024

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## A Message from Governor Shapiro



For the past two years, my Administration has been focused on getting stuff done for the good people of Pennsylvania and ensuring our government operates efficiently, effectively, and with integrity. The Office of State Inspector General (OSIG) is a key partner in these efforts, working tirelessly to protect taxpayer dollars, strengthen public trust, and enhance accountability across the Commonwealth. This year's annual report showcases the critical work OSIG has done to uphold these values and priorities. In total, OSIG saved the Commonwealth more than \$56 million through its public assistance fraud prevention activities alone in the last year – and saved the Commonwealth about \$5 for every \$1 it spent on its investigations.

Under my Administration, OSIG created and developed the Bureau of Inspections and Financial Integrity (BIFI), which helps to eliminate waste in state government contracts and grant programs – ensuring the money going out the door is going to the right places. BIFI has already helped the Commonwealth save nearly \$1 million over the last two years. In the coming year, BIFI will continue to identify ways to protect taxpayer dollars and launch the Grantee Integrity Training program, giving agencies and organizations that apply for state grants the tools they need to reduce risks and ensure compliance.

OSIG has also continued to work alongside the Department of Human Services (DHS) to root out waste, fraud, and abuse in programs that support vulnerable Pennsylvanians. This year, for example, OSIG saved the Commonwealth over \$185,000 when agents uncovered and dismantled a SNAP trafficking ring in Franklin County—an effort that reaffirmed OSIG's commitment to protecting benefits for those who need them most.

Additionally, OSIG's CLEAR Commission continued working to ensure Pennsylvanians can have the utmost faith in the law enforcement agencies under my jurisdiction. This year, the CLEAR Commission released its first set of recommendations, some of which were adopted by Commonwealth law enforcement agencies.

This year's theme — preserving public trust — embodies OSIG's core mission of ensuring taxpayer resources are managed responsibly and that state programs operate with the highest standards of integrity. Together, we will continue to promote accountability, deliver results, and uphold the trust that Pennsylvanians place in their government.

## Introduction

On July 20, 2017, Act 29 of 2017 was enacted as an amendment to the administrative code, establishing an Office of State Inspector General under statute and giving it law enforcement powers, including the ability to issue subpoenas and search warrants, access criminal justice databases and work more cooperatively with other law enforcement agencies. OSIG (formerly "OIG") was originally created by Executive Order 1987-7 on April 6, 1987, to "deter, detect, prevent, and eradicate fraud, waste, misconduct, and abuse in the programs, operations, and contracting of executive agencies," a mission it fulfills for the residents of Pennsylvania to this day.

OSIG is committed to a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion for its workforce, and these ideals are at the very core of its mission to ensure Ethics, Accountability, and Integrity in state government.

To accomplish its mission, OSIG has three investigative bureaus: the Bureau of Special Investigations (BSI), the Bureau of Inspections and Financial Integrity, and the Bureau of Fraud Prevention and Prosecution (BFPP). OSIG has offices located in Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Wilkes-Barre.

The Bureau of Special Investigations (BSI) is primarily tasked with investigating allegations of waste, abuse, and misconduct in agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction. BSI works to identify and eliminate the mismanagement of state monies, employee misconduct, and contract fraud irregularities. BSI is further tasked with conducting pre-employment background investigations for executive-level appointments and other positions of trust in state government.

The Bureau of Inspections and Financial Integrity (BIFI) assists Commonwealth agencies and contractors in two key areas. Through its Grantee Integrity Training (GIT), it provides training to those receiving Commonwealth funds to teach them the correct way to spend these funds. BIFI then collaborates with Commonwealth agencies to help them ensure that their contractors are spending money in the right way.

The Bureau of Fraud Prevention and Prosecution (BFPP) is responsible for conducting investigations into suspected public benefits fraud and abuse as well as performing collection activities for public benefit programs administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS).

OSIG is further supported by the Bureau of Administration, Policy, and Training (BAPT), the Bureau of External Affairs (BEA), and the Office of Chief Counsel. The men and women of OSIG work each day to ensure that the values of good government - ethics, integrity, and accountability – come first in Commonwealth government.

# Accomplishments, By the Numbers Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Saved the Commonwealth \$5.10 in cost savings and collections for every \$1.00 spent on investigative activities.

Saved the Commonwealth more than \$56 million through its public assistance fraud prevention activities by investigating 19,322 applications for public assistance benefits.

Filed 599 criminal complaints on individuals committing public assistance fraud, totaling \$3.5 million in unlawfully obtained benefits and resulting in additional savings of \$1.6 million through disqualification of future benefits.

Successfully adjudicated 60 administrative disqualification actions on individuals committing intentional program violations, totaling \$176,598 in restitution and resulting in additional savings of \$196,517 through disqualification of future benefits.

Collected for the Commonwealth treasury \$12.56 million in restitution for Long-Term Care (LTC) benefit overpayments.

Collected in total (all benefit programs) \$24.71 million for the Commonwealth.

Received 739 complaints and investigative requests that resulted in 74 preliminary inquiries or investigations into possible fraud, waste, abuse, and misconduct in state agencies.

Conducted 321 pre-employment background investigations for executive-level appointments and other positions of trust in state government.

Answered 6,218 calls reporting suspected public assistance fraud on the Public Assistance Fraud Tipline and processed 6,838 public assistance fraud tips via the OSIG website and 117 tips via U.S. mail.

## **Bureau of Special Investigations**

The Bureau of Special Investigations (BSI) investigates allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, and misconduct in agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction. BSI's team of experienced investigators works closely with OSIG attorneys to conduct effective, independent, and timely investigations to identify and eliminate mismanagement of state monies, misconduct by state employees and fraud and irregularities in state contracts and grants.

Complaints received by BSI come from private individuals, state employees and Commonwealth officials. There are also instances when BSI will initiate its own investigations. Complaints can be submitted through OSIG's website, via the telephone hotline or in writing. Complaints received by BSI are reviewed to determine jurisdiction. Some complaints lead to extensive and complex BSI investigations, while others may be referred to a more appropriate state agency for follow- up. Or, after a preliminary inquiry fails to substantiate the allegations, the complaint may be closed.

Any Commonwealth employee who, in good faith, reports wrongdoing or waste to OSIG is protected under Pennsylvania's Whistleblower Law (43 P.S. § 1423).

BSI is tasked with conducting pre-employment background investigations for executive level appointments and other positions of trust within the Commonwealth. Additionally, BSI conducts judicial candidate investigative methodologies for individuals being considered as nominees by the Governor for appropriate judicial vacancies.

BSI also plays a role in increasing state government's effectiveness by conducting program reviews when problems are suspected in a work process or program. During a program review, BSI thoroughly evaluates the work process or program to improve transparency, efficient delivery of services, employee accountability and management oversight. These program reviews may originate from a related investigation or may be requested by an agency's executive-level management.

Upon completion of an investigation or program review, BSI may issue a report to the Office of General Counsel and specific agency heads, detailing BSI's findings and recommendations for the agency going forward. Investigative findings that rise to the level of criminal activity are referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency for possible prosecution. Other investigations may result in referrals to the State Ethics Commission or other administrative bodies for appropriate action.

BSI program reviews have generated positive changes in state programs and processes. Some BSI investigation subjects have been disciplined, removed from Commonwealth employment, or prosecuted. These outcomes serve as a deterrent to future employee misconduct. BSI investigations also have led to important reforms of Commonwealth operations, resulting in increased accountability, transparency, and effectiveness. BSI specifically recommends that all Commonwealth agencies initiate BSI program reviews to further reduce waste, fraud, and abuse.

## Bureau of Inspections and Financial Integrity

The Bureau of Inspections and Financial Integrity (BIFI) assists Commonwealth agencies and contractors by applying a "Left of Bang" philosophy to two key areas. Through its Grantee Integrity Training (GIT), it provides training to those receiving Commonwealth funds to teach them the correct way to spend these funds. BIFI then collaborates with Commonwealth agencies to help them ensure that their contractors are spending money in the right way.

#### Left of BANG Philosophy

BIFI has adopted the Marine Corps' "left of bang" philosophy as the foundation of its proactive approach to safeguarding taxpayer dollars. Rooted in the idea of preventing problems before they escalate, this methodology focuses on identifying risks, vulnerabilities, and anomalies early—before they become significant issues. BIFI operates "left of bang" by assessing financial practices, analyzing trends, and addressing weaknesses in systems to mitigate risks in Commonwealth funding long before taxpayer dollars are misused or wasted.

BIFI embodies this philosophy through its collaborative efforts with executive agencies. By interpreting policies, examining business records, and conducting rigorous financial analyses, the team identifies potential issues at their inception. These evaluations allow agencies to refine processes, improve oversight, and address vulnerabilities in a controlled environment rather than responding to crises or costly errors after they occur. The structured inspections and evaluations BIFI provides ensure that public funds are not only safeguarded but also optimized for maximum impact.

One standout aspect of BIFI's approach is its Grantee Integrity Training, which equips organizations with tools and knowledge to align their practices with the Commonwealth's financial standards. This training proactively instills best practices, ensuring that grantees are well-prepared to use funds responsibly, avoiding the "bang" of noncompliance or misuse. The result is a system that prioritizes prevention and accountability, strengthening public trust in government programs.

By integrating the "left of bang" philosophy into its operations, BIFI helps agencies move from reactive problem-solving to a culture of proactive stewardship. This approach not only protects taxpayer dollars but also reinforces the Commonwealth's commitment to ethical, effective, and efficient use of public resources.



#### **Grantee Integrity Training**

BIFI's Grantee Integrity Training (GIT) serves as a cornerstone for the Commonwealth's efforts to ensure the responsible use of public funds. This comprehensive program provides grantees with the tools and knowledge necessary to navigate the often-complex requirements of managing state-funded programs. By proactively addressing potential compliance challenges, GIT empowers grantees to not only meet their obligations but also maximize the impact of their awards. Its mission is simple yet powerful: to prevent financial missteps before they occur, protecting both grantees and the taxpayer dollars entrusted to them.

The training is open to all individuals and organizations that receive Commonwealth funding, making it an accessible and invaluable resource across the state. Participants are guided through best practices for adhering to grant guidelines, implementing financial safeguards, and conducting internal evaluations to maintain compliance. These sessions emphasize the importance of transparency and accountability, helping grantees understand their responsibilities while equipping them to prevent costly errors or misuse of funds.

BIFI's Grantee Integrity Training is especially impactful for grantees from historically underserved communities, who may face unique challenges in navigating complex grant requirements. By offering accessible and practical guidance, GIT helps these organizations build capacity, strengthen financial management practices, and overcome systemic barriers that have traditionally limited their access to funding opportunities. The training equips participants with the tools to confidently manage public funds, ensuring they can achieve their missions while remaining compliant with state regulations. This focus on empowerment aligns with the Commonwealth's commitment to fostering equity and inclusion, ensuring that organizations serving vulnerable populations have the support they need to succeed.

A key strength of GIT lies in its ability to provide practical, real-world strategies tailored to the needs of its audience. Grantees learn how to establish clear financial controls, monitor expenditures effectively, and meet reporting requirements with confidence. Additionally, the training offers insights into risk mitigation, ensuring that grantees can anticipate and address potential challenges before they escalate. This proactive approach aligns directly with the mission of BIFI and the OSIG: to protect taxpayer dollars and maintain public trust in state-funded initiatives.

Beyond its immediate benefits, GIT fosters a culture of partnership between the Commonwealth and its grantees. By prioritizing education and prevention, the training strengthens relationships between

agencies and recipients, creating a shared commitment to fiscal responsibility. In doing so, it not only safeguards public resources but also enhances the long-term success and sustainability of programs across the Commonwealth. Through GIT, BIFI underscores its dedication to ensuring that every dollar awarded serves its intended purpose, benefiting Pennsylvanians.

Visit OSIG's website to schedule Grantee Integrity Training.

#### Inspections and Evaluations

BIFI's inspections and evaluations is a key pillar of its mission to protect taxpayer dollars and ensure the integrity of public programs. Through collaboration with Commonwealth executive agencies, BIFI identifies and evaluates high-risk grants, contracts, and procurements to mitigate financial and operational risks within taxpayer-funded initiatives. Acting as an extension of the agency it serves, BIFI works closely with agency leadership to define specific objectives and tailor its inspections and evaluations to meet the unique needs of each program or project.

The inspections and evaluations process is rigorous and comprehensive, involving a variety of tasks designed to uncover potential vulnerabilities and ensure compliance. BIFI's team interprets and applies agency policies, procedures, rules, and regulations to the programs under review. They draft detailed inspection documents, generate financial analyses, examine business records, and provide clear, actionable recommendations in their reports and presentations. This meticulous approach not only identifies risks but also offers solutions to address them, enabling agencies to take corrective actions that strengthen oversight and accountability.

One of the greatest strengths of this component is its ability to function as a referral source for Commonwealth agencies dealing with time-sensitive financial concerns or complex compliance challenges. Whether it's monitoring grant programs, analyzing procurement practices, or evaluating grant recipients, BIFI's involvement provides agencies with a trusted partner to safeguard public funds. These evaluations also create a ripple effect by instilling best practices across programs and ensuring the Commonwealth achieves maximum value from its investments.

Ultimately, BIFI's inspections and evaluations are not merely about identifying problems—they are about building stronger systems, fostering accountability, and creating a culture of proactive financial stewardship. By partnering with agencies and grantees to address risks before they escalate, BIFI reinforces the Commonwealth's commitment to ethical, effective governance and the responsible use of public resources.

## **Bureau of Fraud Prevention and Prosecution**

OSIG's Bureau of Fraud Prevention and Prosecution (BFPP) investigates and prosecutes public assistance fraud and conducts collection activities for the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS). This partnership with DHS helps ensure that public assistance benefits are distributed fairly and equitably and that the integrity of the Commonwealth's public assistance programs is maintained. BFPP investigates allegations of fraud within DHS public benefits programs:

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF Cash Assistance)
- Medical Assistance (MA), including Long Term Care (LTC)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), including SNAP trafficking
- Subsidized Child Care (SCC)
- Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP)

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Special Allowance Programs

BFPP has regional offices in Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Wilkes-Barre. BFPP staff also are stationed in or assigned to work with DHS staff in every Pennsylvania county. Additionally, BFPP staff work with Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC) offices across the Commonwealth to investigate potential fraud in the DHS Subsidized Child Care Program.

#### **Field Investigation Program**

Individuals applying or re-applying for public assistance must submit truthful, complete, and accurate information. When a DHS caseworker or ELRC eligibility specialist suspects an applicant or recipient has provided inaccurate, inconsistent, or incomplete information, they make an investigative referral to OSIG. OSIG Special Agents then investigate to verify the circumstances of the applicant or recipient. OSIG provides the results of the investigation to the DHS caseworker or ELRC eligibility specialist, who then uses the information to determine whether benefits should be authorized, continued, denied, or reduced.

#### Fraud Investigation Program

BFPP's Fraud Investigation Program focuses on individuals who fraudulently received public assistance benefits to which they were not entitled. Pennsylvania law prohibits the fraudulent receipt of benefits.

Individuals who commit public assistance fraud face criminal charges, payment of court costs and fines, restitution payments, and disqualification from receiving future benefits.

When a DHS caseworker or ELRC eligibility specialist discovers that an overpayment has occurred, they forward the information to OSIG. BFPP staff conduct an investigation to determine whether the case contains the elements of public assistance fraud. If it does, BFPP staff file police criminal complaints with the appropriate Magisterial District Judge. Once public assistance fraud charges are filed, the case moves through the Commonwealth's court system.

#### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program — Trafficking

BFPP conducts SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card-trafficking investigations of stores and SNAP recipients.

SNAP trafficking occurs when SNAP benefits are illegally exchanged for cash, services, or anything other than eligible food items. For example, a store owner may give a SNAP recipient cash at a percentage of their balance in SNAP benefits, or exchange SNAP benefits for cigarettes, drugs, or other non-allowable goods. The store owner will then redeem the benefits or use the EBT card to make purchases for the store owner's benefit.

BFPP also investigates and prosecutes other EBT card-related crimes, such as theft, access device fraud, and identity theft.

#### Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act included funding for states to establish emergency rental assistance programs. The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) was designated as the agency to oversee the administration of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). In early 2022, DHS requested OSIG assistance with the investigation of

applicant eligibility and potential fraud in ERAP. BFPP updated its systems to accommodate this new program and began accepting referrals in March 2022.

#### Public Assistance Fraud Tipline

OSIG is committed to identifying and eliminating fraud, waste, and abuse in public assistance programs. As part of that commitment, OSIG operates a toll-free Public Assistance Fraud Tipline at 1-800-932-0582. Concerned individuals can use the Tipline to report suspected public assistance fraud. OSIG also receives public assistance fraud tips via an online reporting system available at www.OSIG.pa.gov, through the U.S. mail, and via fax. Tips may include information on a benefit recipient's unreported income and resources or incorrectly reported household composition, all of which may affect eligibility for public assistance. Each tip received is carefully reviewed and, if appropriate, investigated by BFPP staff. When an investigation reveals information that impacts a recipient's eligibility, OSIG sends this information to DHS.

#### Administrative Disqualification Hearings

When an individual has committed an Intentional Program Violation (IPV) in the TANF, SNAP or SCC program but criminal prosecution is not an option, OSIG can pursue the case through an Administrative Disqualification Hearing (ADH).

Individuals facing the ADH process may waive their right to a hearing, which means they accept the disqualification penalties and agree to repay improperly received benefits. Otherwise, they will have a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge who will evaluate the evidence and render a decision. Individuals found guilty of committing an IPV are ordered to pay restitution and are disqualified from receiving future benefits. The disqualification penalties imposed through the ADH process are the same as those imposed in criminal proceedings.

#### Long Term Care

Pennsylvania's Long Term Care (LTC) Program provides nursing home assistance and medical care for financially and medically eligible individuals. Each year, the program pays out millions of dollars to ensure that Pennsylvanians who are elderly or have disabilities receive the care they need.

When DHS discovers that an individual or their personal representative failed to report income or assets that affect their eligibility for LTC benefits, the possible overpayment is referred to OSIG for investigation and collection. If the investigation determines that the elements of public assistance fraud exist, OSIG files criminal charges. If there is no fraud, OSIG recovers by civil action the overpayment amount. OSIG's legal staff will initiate civil court actions to obtain repayment, if necessary.

#### Program Integrity

The Program Integrity Office (PIO) works collaboratively with DHS to eradicate abuses within public assistance programs and operations to prevent public assistance fraud and waste. This unit acts as the agency's liaison to DHS and works with DHS's Program Integrity Office and Office of Income Maintenance.

OSIG's participation in DHS work groups and projects related to program integrity initiatives has strengthened the partnership between the two agencies.

Greater cooperation and teamwork between OSIG and DHS are enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of both agencies' fraud-fighting efforts and OSIG's collection of restitution from offenders.

#### Collections

Individuals who are found guilty of public assistance fraud, or who have committed an Intentional Program Violation through the ADH process, are ordered to make restitution to OSIG. However, not all collections by OSIG involve public assistance fraud or come through the ADH process. Regulations state that all overpaid benefits, regardless of whether fraud occurred, must be repaid to the Commonwealth. OSIG collects all benefit overpayments for DHS through BFPP's Operation Support Division.

## Bureau of Administration, Policy, and Training

The Bureau of Administration, Policy, and Training (BAPT) operates as a support bureau to OSIG employees by providing supplies and equipment, negotiating contracts and services, administering all fiscal budgetary matters, overseeing personnel actions and employee relations, writing agency policies and procedures, and providing training to new and existing staff. BAPT is comprised of four divisions: Employee Services, Budget, Claim Accounting, and Policy and Training.

#### **Employee Services Division**

The Employee Services Division is responsible for the coordination of all personnel management activities, which include but are not limited to recruitment, hiring, workplace injuries, human resource policy development, labor relations, employee discipline, timekeeping and leave management.

#### **Budget Division**

The Budget Division manages OSIG's budget and procurement process. This includes processing orders and purchases with contracted vendors, serving as liaison to vendors on payments and purchases, managing budget preparation and projections, and approving all personnel actions and purchases in accordance with the budget. The Division also oversees facilities management, including all office leases, space allocation and building access; management of the agency's automotive fleet; mail and courier services; and the purchase and deployment of equipment and supplies.

#### **Claim Accounting Division**

The Claim Accounting Division provides accounting support for the processing of monies recovered from public assistance recipients who obtained benefits to which they were not entitled.

#### **Division of Policy and Training**

The Division of Policy and Training offers training and program support. The division provides training to all new OSIG employees and an extensive program for all new investigators. The division also provides existing staff ongoing training as a refresher or when a new policy is implemented. The division trains other state agencies and community partners to identify and refer potential fraud, waste, and abuse to OSIG and promotes the agency to potential future employees.

The Division also provides program support not only to the bureaus within OSIG but also to other Commonwealth offices and local agencies that deliver public benefits or are involved in law enforcement. Program support takes many forms, such as developing and issuing policies; creating forms, notices, handbooks, and manuals for OSIG staff; responding to policy questions as well as non-policy related questions; preparing; designing and developing statewide promotional materials; and developing processes and procedures for other Commonwealth agencies' use when dealing with operations that affect OSIG.

# **Bureau of External Affairs**

The Bureau of External Affairs (BEA) is a vital division within OSIG, as it handles a wide range of external communications and public relations responsibilities. These responsibilities include legislative affairs, public policy, press relations, and digital communications, all of which play a crucial role in shaping the agency's public image and communicating its message to the public and government stakeholders.

Legislative affairs is one of BEA's most important responsibilities. This involves working with state legislators and staff to shape policy and laws related to OSIG's mission. BEA may work to promote the agency's legislative agenda, attend hearings, and work with other government agencies to advance the agency's goals. This work is crucial in ensuring that the agency has the necessary resources and support to carry out its mission effectively.

Public policy is another important aspect of the bureau's work. BEA is responsible for developing OSIG's legislative and policy agenda, as well as analyzing and commenting on proposed legislation and regulations that may impact the agency's mission. BEA may also work with other government agencies and organizations to develop policy recommendations and best practices. This work helps to ensure that OSIG's policies align with the public interest, and that the agency is held accountable for its actions.

BEA is also responsible for communicating OSIG's message to the media and responding to media inquiries. This includes developing and distributing press releases, preparing and providing background information to reporters, and arranging interviews with agency officials. BEA also plays an important role in crisis communication, ensuring that the agency's message is communicated accurately and effectively in times of crisis.

Digital communications, such as the agency's website and social media accounts, are also under the purview of BEA. BEA is responsible for creating and maintaining the agency's digital presence, including website design, content creation, and social media management. This helps the agency to engage with the public and stakeholders, provide information about the agency's mission and work, and respond to feedback and inquiries.

BEA plays a critical role in shaping the agency's public image and communicating its message to the public and government stakeholders. BEA works in coordination with the Governor's office to ensure that the agency's legislative, public policy, press, and digital communications efforts are aligned, effective, and responsive to the needs of the public and government stakeholders. BEA's work is crucial in ensuring that the agency has the necessary resources and support to carry out its mission effectively and that the agency is held accountable for its actions.

# Office of Chief Counsel

The OSIG Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) has attorneys in Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. OCC provides legal advice to the Inspector General and OSIG.

OSIG's attorneys actively participate in all aspects of Bureau of Special Investigations (BSI) investigations. They interview witnesses; review and analyze investigative materials to identify potential civil, criminal, and administrative violations; recommend investigative activity; and draft OSIG investigative reports and other investigation-related summarization documents. They represent the interests of OSIG and client agencies in administrative hearings and before state and federal courts.

OSIG attorneys provide legal assistance to the Bureau of Fraud Prevention and Prosecution (BFPP) in recovering fraudulently obtained public benefits, particularly in the Long-Term Care programs. They represent OSIG and BFPP personnel in civil lawsuits filed to recover overpayments in such benefit programs as medical assistance, cash assistance and SNAP. They also provide legal assistance to BFPP in its public assistance fraud prosecution and administrative disqualification hearing initiatives.

In 2023, OSIG attorneys were vital partners in the development and operation of the Bureau of Inspections and Financial Integrity (BIFI). OSIG attorneys work to make sure inspections comply with best practices and comply with national standards.

OCC attorneys draft and review proposed agency policies, legislation, and regulations affecting OSIG programs. They assist with agency contracting, information technology, and human resource issues; respond to informal requests for public information; and assist in preparation of OSIG investigation and post-investigation hearings, along with any post-investigation legal matters.

Report fraud, waste, misconduct, or abuse

in Commonwealth programs, operations, or contracts by calling toll-free:

## 1-855-FRAUD-PA (1-855-372-8372)

Report public assistance fraud against an individual or business by calling toll-free:

### 1-800-932-0582

Send written information to the following addresses:

## Public Assistance Fraud Tips:

Office of State Inspector General 555 Walnut Street, 7th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

## Government Fraud Tips:

Office of State Inspector General 555 Walnut Street, 8th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

## http://www.osig.pa.gov

All calls and correspondence are confidential





## **OFFICE OF STATE INSPECTOR GENERAL**

Providing investigative services for Pennsylvania's citizens for nearly 30 years