



Inspector General

RECOMMENDED FY24 BUDGET

\$3,047,321

FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS

19.00

MEGAN DAVEY LIMARZI, INSPECTOR GENERAL

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is to promote the effectiveness and efficiency of programs and operations of County government and independent County agencies, prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in government activities, and propose ways to increase the legal, fiscal, and ethical accountability of County government and County-funded agencies.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The total recommended FY24 Operating Budget for the Office of Inspector General is \$3,047,321, an increase of \$534,921 or 21.29 percent from the FY23 Approved Budget of \$2,512,400. Personnel Costs comprise 95.55 percent of the budget for 19 full-time positions and no part-time positions, and a total of 19.00 FTEs. Total FTEs may include seasonal or temporary positions and may also reflect workforce charged to or from other departments or funds. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 4.50 percent of the FY24 budget.

COUNTY PRIORITY OUTCOMES

While this program area supports all seven of the County Executive's Priority Outcomes, the following are emphasized:

- A Growing Economy**
- Effective, Sustainable Government**

INITIATIVES

- Continue to expand investigation capacity to allow the OIG to manage the requests for review of Montgomery County Public Schools in accordance with State legislation (Chapter 329 of 2020). Per Bill 11-19, the OIG will also leverage the new auditor positions added in FY23 to implement a systematic risk-based rotating group-by-group review of the internal accounting and contracting processes and controls used by each Department and principal office in the Executive Branch, as well as audit high-risk County contracts and agreements. Auditing the County's accounting and contracting processes on a recurring basis ensures that accounting/contracting programs are running effectively and efficiently.

INNOVATIONS AND PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS

- Continued development of a mechanism to track savings and improvements identified through OIG audits, investigations, and referrals. Instituted a follow-up system for management to report on actual savings and improvements.
- Implemented outreach programs to help educate County employees on how they can help the OIG to fight fraud, waste and abuse, and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the programs and operations of the County government and independent County agencies.
- Created a user-friendly online complaint submission form in English and Spanish to increase accessibility to the OIG for County employees and residents.
- Implemented a case management system, automated complaint processing, audit program management, and investigatory engagements.
- Implemented an internship program for both college students and people with disabilities to increase the impact of the OIG in the workplace. In partnership with the University of Maryland Shady Grove, the OIG hosted a student intern for 10 weeks in the summer of 2022. In the fall of 2022, the OIG began hosting an adult with disabilities as part of the County's Project Search program for another 10 weeks. Both interns contributed to the work of the office to a significant degree.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Becky Bolat of the Office of Inspector General at 240.777.8243 or Grace Pedersen of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.773.1088 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance measures for this department are included below (where applicable). The FY23 estimates reflect funding based on the FY23 Approved Budget. The FY24 and FY25 figures are performance targets based on the FY24 Recommended Budget and funding for comparable service levels in FY25.

Measure	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimated FY23	Target FY24	Target FY25
Program Measures					
Percent of initial inquiries (with no reports or memo) completed within 20 business days ¹	100%	100%	95%	95%	95%
Percent of audit/inspection/investigation reports completed within 8 months	71%	77%	75%	80%	80%
Percent of complaints reviewed and action initiated within 5 business days	97%	97%	95%	95%	95%
Number of audits or reviews of Principal Departments completed in current cycle (24 total to be completed in FY21-FY24 cycle)	0	2	3	4	5
Number of evaluations, inspections, or reviews of County programs and operations completed annually (the goal is two per year)	6	2	2	2	2

¹ The Office of Inspector General (OIG) either completed preliminary inquiry work without further comment, or reclassified the item for continuation as an audit, inspection, investigation, evaluation, or review.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Inspector General

The Inspector General conducts independent audits, reviews, and investigations; receives and investigates credible complaints; reports possible violations of the law to law enforcement or another appropriate organization; notifies the County Council and County Executive of serious problems in programs; reviews legislation and regulations to strengthen controls and increase accountability; and submits reports with recommendations to appropriate officials. The Inspector General periodically conducts

projects jointly with other government agencies and contractors.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY22	Budget FY23	Estimate FY23	Recommended FY24	%Chg Bud/Rec
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	1,442,527	1,902,262	1,863,098	2,304,860	21.2 %
Employee Benefits	363,637	486,377	452,081	605,323	24.5 %
County General Fund Personnel Costs	1,806,164	2,388,639	2,315,179	2,910,183	21.8 %
Operating Expenses	76,144	123,761	121,749	137,138	10.8 %
County General Fund Expenditures	1,882,308	2,512,400	2,436,928	3,047,321	21.3 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	13	17	17	19	11.8 %
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	14.00	17.00	17.00	19.00	11.8 %

FY24 RECOMMENDED CHANGES

	Expenditures	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY23 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	2,512,400	17.00
<u>Changes (with service impacts)</u>		
Enhance: Add staff to support MCPS Investigations, per Bill 11-19 [Inspector General]	214,017	2.00
<u>Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)</u>		
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY23 Lapsed Positions	94,860	0.00
Increase Cost: FY24 Compensation Adjustment	93,500	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY23 Compensation Increases	91,099	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY23 Personnel Costs	46,630	0.00
Increase Cost: Printing and Mail	2,975	0.00
Decrease Cost: Retirement Adjustment	(2,400)	0.00
Decrease Cost: Elimination of One-Time Items Approved in FY23	(5,760)	0.00
FY24 RECOMMENDED	3,047,321	19.00

FUNDING PARAMETER ITEMS

CE RECOMMENDED (\$000S)

Title	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29
COUNTY GENERAL FUND						
EXPENDITURES						
FY24 Recommended	3,047	3,047	3,047	3,047	3,047	3,047

FUNDING PARAMETER ITEMS

CE RECOMMENDED (\$000S)

Title	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29
No inflation or compensation change is included in outyear projections.						
Annualization of Positions Recommended in FY24	0	89	89	89	89	89
New positions in the FY24 budget are generally assumed to be filled at least two months after the fiscal year begins. Therefore, the above amounts reflect annualization of these positions in the outyears.						
Elimination of One-Time Items Recommended in FY24	0	(9)	(9)	(9)	(9)	(9)
Items recommended for one-time funding in FY24, including new position's computer and furniture costs, will be eliminated from the base in the outyears.						
Labor Contracts	0	60	60	60	60	60
These figures represent the estimated annualized cost of general wage adjustments, service increments, and other negotiated items.						
Subtotal Expenditures	3,047	3,186	3,186	3,186	3,186	3,186

ANNUALIZATION OF FULL PERSONNEL COSTS

	FY24 Recommended		FY25 Annualized	
	Expenditures	FTEs	Expenditures	FTEs
Add staff to support MCPS Investigations, per Bill 11-19	197,855	2.00	286,864	2.00
Total	197,855	2.00	286,864	2.00