FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL



SEMIANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

OCTOBER 1, 2024 – MARCH 31, 2025



Farm Credit Administration Office of Inspector General

A Message from the Acting Inspector General

I am pleased to submit our Semiannual Report to Congress, summarizing the activities and accomplishments of the Farm Credit Administration (FCA or Agency) Office of Inspector General (OIG) for October 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025.

This reporting period saw many changes throughout the government, at FCA, and in the OIG. These months included a change in presidential administration, the President's designation of Jeffery S. Hall as FCA Board Chairman, and the retirement of Board Member Vincent G. Logan. Within the OIG, this reporting period also observed the retirement of Inspector General Wendy R. Laguarda after thirty-eight years of federal service.

This same six months saw the OIG continue to carry out its responsibilities under the Inspector General Act. We timely completed an inspection concerning the Agency's compliance with responsibilities related to improper payments, as required by the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019, and oversaw another statutorily required annual audit of the Agency's financial statements. In keeping with our responsibility to keep the Congress informed about problems and deficiencies facing the Agency, this period also saw our office conclude an inspection, initiated upon congressional request, of FCA's adherence to the requirements of the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012.

These past six months also saw the OIG continue to receive, review, and address complaints and information submitted through our hotline and meaningful contributions of OIG personnel to the work of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. We also promoted awareness of the OIG's mission within the Agency by concluding a series of presentations to employees of FCA's Office of Examination that we initiated in the last reporting period. These presentations afforded us the opportunity to meet face-to-face with staff in each of the Agency's five office locations. Additionally, with an eye toward the future, in October our office adopted a new strategic plan, highlighting strategic goals and objectives that we expect will inform our operations for the years to come.

Finally, I once again would like to thank FCA employees for their diligent cooperation with our work. Their assistance is indispensable to our oversight.

Nicholas Novak

Nicholas J. Norak

Acting Inspector General

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message from the Acting Inspector General	
Acronyms and Abbreviations	
Background	
Strategic Plan	
Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations	
Investigations	
Other Reports and Reviews	10
Outreach, Collaboration, and Other Initiatives	11
Appendix I: Peer Reviews	12
Appendix II: Reports Issued	14
Appendix III: Open Recommendations	15
Index of Reporting Requirements	16

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CIGIE Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency

Farmer Mac Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation

FCA (or Agency) Farm Credit Administration

HRK Harper, Rains, Knight & Company, P.A.

I&E Inspection and Evaluation

IG Inspector General

IG Act Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended

OIG Office of Inspector General

OMB U.S. Office of Management and Budget

PIIA Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019

Pub. L. Public Law

System Farm Credit System

U.S. United States

USAID U.S. Agency for International Development

U.S.C. United States Code

BACKGROUND

The Farm Credit System

First established in 1916, the Farm Credit System (System) is a nationwide network of borrower-owned cooperative financial institutions and service organizations. A government-sponsored enterprise, the System is designed to better the income and well-being of farmers, ranchers, and rural America by providing a safe and reliable source of credit and related financial services.

As of January 1, 2025, the System consisted of three farm credit banks, one agricultural credit bank, one federal land credit association and 54 agricultural credit associations that primarily make loans to agriculture in all 50 states and Puerto Rico, as well as six service corporations that provide administrative, technology-related, and other support services to certain System entities and eligible borrowers.

Created in 1988, the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac) provides a secondary market for agricultural and rural infrastructure loans. A stockholder-owned, federally chartered corporation, Farmer Mac is an institution of the System, but is not liable for any debt or obligation of any other System institution.

The Farm Credit Administration

The Farm Credit Administration (FCA or Agency) is the independent federal agency responsible for ensuring that the System remains a dependable source of credit for agriculture and rural America. Authorized by the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended, FCA ensures the safety and soundness of System institutions by issuing policies and regulations and by regularly examining System institutions. FCA has five office locations and more than 300 employees.



FCA is overseen by a three-person board, members of which are appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Chairman—who is

designated by the President and serves in that role until the end of the Chairman's term—also serves as the Agency's Chief Executive Officer. The Board had three members during the reporting period: Jeffery S. Hall, Glen R. Smith, and Vincent G. Logan. On January 20, 2025, the President designated Mr. Hall as Board Chairman, succeeding Mr. Logan in that position. Mr. Logan retired from federal service at the end of the reporting period.

The Office of Inspector General

Established in January 1989, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) is charged with the task of providing independent and objective oversight of FCA programs and operations. It carries out this responsibility as authorized by and in accordance with the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended² (IG Act), by conducting and supervising audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations; promoting economy and efficiency; preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse; and keeping the FCA Board and Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies related to FCA.

_

¹ 12 U.S.C. § 2001 et seq.

² 5 U.S.C. §§ 401–424.



Located within FCA, the OIG operates independently—outside the direction of Agency leadership. While the Inspector General (IG) is appointed by and serves under the general supervision of the FCA Board, neither the Board nor any other Agency official may prevent or prohibit the IG from carrying out an oversight

activity that the IG determines to be necessary or appropriate. The IG also exercises discretion in OIG employment and contracting decisions, further safeguarding the office's independent status. This independence is necessary to ensure that OIG products meet the highest standards of objectivity and credibility.

The OIG is led by the IG. Reporting to the IG are the Assistant Inspector General for Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations and the Counsel to the Inspector General/Assistant Inspector General for Investigations. The Assistant Inspector General for Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations supervises the audit staff and oversees the audit, inspection, and evaluation functions. The Counsel to the Inspector General/Assistant Inspector General for Investigations supervises the OIG Investigator and oversees the investigative function.

The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency

The FCA IG also serves as a member of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE). Composed of the federal inspectors general and certain other federal officials, CIGIE was established to address cross-agency issues of integrity, economy, and effectiveness and to improve the professionalism and effectiveness of OIG personnel. OIG staff regularly participate on CIGIE committees and initiatives, as discussed in this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN

In October 2024, the OIG adopted a five-year <u>strategic plan for fiscal years 2025 to 2029</u>. Revised in January 2025, the plan details the mission, vision, values, goals, and objectives of the OIG in carrying out its responsibilities under the IG Act.

The OIG's mission, vision, values, and goals are outlined below.

Mission

To provide independent oversight to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness, and prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in Farm Credit Administration programs and operations.

Vision

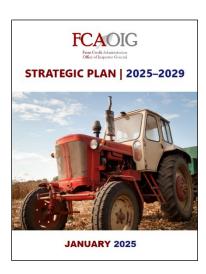
To facilitate continuous improvement through objective and trusted oversight.

Values

Objectivity, Integrity, Relevance, and Respect

Goals

- 1) Promote Economy and Efficiency
- 2) Prevent and Detect Fraud, Waste, and Abuse
- 3) Strengthen Internal and External Relationships
- 4) Foster a Dynamic and Inspiring Workplace



AUDITS, INSPECTIONS, AND EVALUATIONS

The OIG regularly performs audits, inspections, and evaluations of FCA programs and operations. In so doing, OIG personnel seek to provide timely, credible, and relevant information to Agency leadership, Congress, other stakeholders, and the general public. FCA OIG audits are performed in accordance with

generally accepted government auditing standards issued by Council of the
INSPECTORS GENERAL
on INTEGRITY and EPPICIENCY GAO By the Comptrol United States STANDARDS Quality Standards for 2024 Revision Inspection and Evaluation

U.S. Government Accountability Office, inspections and evaluations adhere to the CIGIE Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation.

In planning its audits, inspections, and evaluations, the OIG employs a risk-based approach that accounts for prior oversight work, the control environment, input from the FCA Board and senior management, statutory requirements, and resources. For more information, and to learn about future OIG work, please see the audit, inspection, and evaluation plan for fiscal years 2025 and 2026.

Reports issued may be found on the OIG website within three business days of issuance to the FCA Board. To receive a notification when a new report is published, please <u>subscribe</u> to the OIG mailing list. Reports are also posted on Oversight.gov, a consolidated repository for the oversight work of federal inspectors general. Oversight.gov allows users to sort, search, **VERSIGHT.GOV** and filter the site's database to find reports of interest.

Summaries of Reports Issued

The OIG issued three reports and made five recommendations for corrective action during the reporting period. The reports are summarized below.

> Farm Credit Administration's Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 for Fiscal Year 2024 I-25-01

Enacted in March 2020, the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA) aimed to improve governmentwide efforts to identify and reduce improper payments, setting forth various reporting requirements for federal agencies. PIIA requires OIGs to determine annually whether their respective agencies complied with PIIA requirements, in accordance with guidance issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and CIGIE.

This inspection determined that FCA complied with PIIA requirements applicable to the Agency for fiscal year 2024, and based on the limited review performed, that the Agency's efforts to prevent and reduce improper payments appeared to be reasonable. FCA published on its website a Performance and Accountability Report, which included the Agency's annual financial statements and required payment integrity information. The Agency also reported payment integrity data to PaymentAccuracy.gov. The OIG found that the Agency conducted improper payment risk assessments in May 2024, as required, and determined that all of its programs and activities were low risk and not susceptible to significant improper payments. Other PIIA reporting requirements were not applicable to the Agency in fiscal year 2024.

The OIG issued the inspection report on February 14, 2025.

Farm Credit Administration's Inclusion of the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act's "Anti-gag" Statement in Nondisclosure Materials I-24-02

The Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012 (WPEA) strengthened protections for federal employees who disclose allegations of waste, fraud, abuse, or other wrongdoing. The WPEA required, among other things, that any nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement contain an "anti-gag" statement to ensure employees are appropriately advised of their obligations and rights concerning disclosure of information. The objective of this inspection, which was initiated in response to a congressional request, was to determine whether the Agency had included required provisions of the WPEA in applicable nondisclosure policies, forms, agreements, and related documents.

To answer the objective, the OIG reviewed FCA settlement agreements and documentation related to interagency agreements to determine whether any of the documents contained a nondisclosure provision and the required WPEA "anti-gag" statement. The OIG also identified and reviewed Agency policies and procedures to determine whether any contained restrictions on disclosures of information.

The OIG found the Agency had generally included the required WPEA "anti-gag" statement in applicable nondisclosure agreements. However, the OIG identified opportunities for the Agency to more closely adhere to the WPEA's requirements. Although all settlement agreements tested contained the "anti-gag" statement, some did not reflect 2021 amendments to the WPEA. The OIG also found one interagency agreement that did not contain the required "anti-gag" statement. Additionally, the inspection identified three internal policies and procedures that restricted the disclosure of information in some manner and did not contain the required "anti-gag" statement.

The inspection resulted in five recommendations for corrective action. Management agreed with, and provided responsive corrective actions for, all recommendations. The OIG issued the <u>inspection report</u> on January 3, 2025.

Farm Credit Administration's Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2024 A-24-FS

Each year, FCA must submit audited financial statements to Congress and OMB. These financial statements are required to be audited in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards by the IG or an independent external auditor. For fiscal year 2024, the OIG engaged the independent public accounting firm Harper, Rains, Knight & Company, P.A. (HRK) to audit FCA's financial statements. The OIG monitored the work of HRK.

HRK concluded the audit in November 2024, issuing an unmodified opinion signifying that the financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, FCA's financial position as of September 30, 2024, and 2023, and its net cost of operations, changes in net position, and budgetary resources for the fiscal years then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

HRK considered FCA's internal control relevant to the financial statement audit as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements. The auditors did not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting; however, they did not identify any deficiencies that HRK considered to be material weaknesses. Additionally, HRK performed tests of FCA's compliance with selected provisions of laws, regulations, and contracts that would have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. While HRK did not express an opinion on compliance with those provisions, they did not identify any instances of reportable noncompliance.

The OIG's monitoring and review of HRK disclosed no instances where HRK did not comply, in all material respects, with generally accepted government auditing standards. The OIG issued the <u>audit report</u> on November 7, 2024.

Recommendations Made During the Reporting Period

Table 1 shows all recommendations for corrective action made during the reporting period.

Table 1

TODALC I			
Report		Recommendation	
Farm Credit Administration's Inclusion of the Whistleblower Protection	1	The Office of Inspector General recommends the Office of General Counsel implement a process to ensure settlement agreements contain the current "anti-gag" statement from the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012, as amended	
Enhancement Act's "Anti-gag" Statement in Nondisclosure Materials	2	The Office of Inspector General recommends the Office of the Chief Financial Officer update the Memorandum of Agreement used for interagency agreements to include the "anti-gag" statement from the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012, as amended.	
	3	The Office of Inspector General recommends the Office of Examination update Directive 21, <i>Examiner Ethics</i> , to include the "anti-gag" statement from the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012, as amended.	
	4	The Office of Inspector General recommends the Office of Secondary Market Oversight update Directive 3, <i>Ethics for Employees</i> , to include the "anti-gag" statement from the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012, as amended.	
	5	The Office of Inspector General recommends the Office of Congressional and Public Affairs update Policies and Procedures Manual 201, <i>Information Release Policy</i> , to include the "anti-gag" statement from the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012, as amended.	

Closed without Report

In November 2024, the OIG began an audit, FCA's Planning for the Use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. The OIG terminated the audit in January 2025 in light of new government-wide guidance concerning artificial intelligence.

In Progress

Below are the audits, inspections, and evaluations in progress at the end of the reporting period.

Farm Credit Administration's Compliance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act for Fiscal Year 2025

The Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 requires that the OIG annually evaluate FCA's information security program and practices to determine their effectiveness according to metrics identified by OMB and CIGIE, in consultation with other stakeholders.

Farm Credit Administration's Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2025

The Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002 requires FCA to annually submit financial statements to Congress and OMB. Those financial statements must be audited in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards by the IG or an independent external auditor, as determined by the IG. The OIG has contracted with an independent public accounting firm to perform this audit for fiscal year 2025. The OIG is monitoring the work of the firm.

INVESTIGATIONS

The OIG has broad discretion to carry out investigations related to FCA programs and operations that the IG determines to be necessary or appropriate. The range of matters falling within the OIG's investigative purview is expansive, encompassing potential violations of law, rules, or regulations; mismanagement; abuses of authority; and more. Investigative activities may be initiated upon allegations or referrals received from a variety of sources, including, but not limited to, FCA employees or contractors, congressional committees, other agencies, System institutions, or members of the public. The OIG may also investigate potential fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement identified through OIG audits, inspections, and evaluations.

In exercising its investigative authorities, the OIG works to develop products that are timely, clear, and credible, and to guard the identities of those who provide information to the OIG or are the subject of complaints. All investigations are carried out in accordance with the CIGIE *Quality Standards for Investigations*.

Table 2 summarizes major investigative activity during the reporting period.

Table 2

Metric	Number
Investigative reports issued ³	0
Persons referred to the U.S. Department of Justice for criminal prosecution	0
Persons referred to state and local prosecuting authorities for criminal prosecution	0
Indictments and criminal informations that resulted from any prior referral to prosecuting authorities	0

Complaint Activity

FCA employees and others may confidentially report potential fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement to the OIG in-person or via telephone, email, mail, or OIG's online complaint form. Table 3 shows the disposition of complaints received during the reporting period or carried over from a previous reporting period.

Table 3

Action Taken	Number
Closed after investigation	0
Closed after review with no further specific investigative action ⁴	23
Referred to an FCA program manager	5
Referred to other federal, state, or local agency or authority	1
Under review at the end of the reporting period ⁵	6
Total	35

³ This metric does not include memoranda memorializing the closure or referral of complaints.

⁴ May include matters closed for lack of jurisdiction; closed after preliminary inquiry; referred to the OIG's audit, inspection, and evaluation function; closed due to a non-responsive complainant; or closed as a non-complaint.

⁵ Includes all open complaints, including those under investigation at the end of the reporting period.

Required Reporting on Human Trafficking

The Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022⁶ requires the OIG to report on suspected violations relating to trafficking in persons; investigations resulting from those suspected violations; and related recommendations to improve Agency programs and operations. The OIG has no responsive information for this reporting period.

_

⁶ Pub. L. 117-348, § 122(e) (Jan. 5, 2023).

OTHER REPORTS AND REVIEWS

The OIG also conducts reviews that do not fit the description of an audit, inspection, evaluation, or investigation. These projects are typically undertaken in accordance with statutory requirements, for quality assurance purposes, or to otherwise provide comprehensive oversight of FCA programs and operations. Below are summaries of such reviews that were completed during the reporting period.

Survey of Farm Credit System Institutions Regarding the Agency's Examination Function

Each quarter, the OIG surveys recently examined System institutions on FCA's examination function. Survey questions seek the institution's views on several matters, ranging from the appropriateness of the examination's scope and the examiners' conduct to the helpfulness of any recommendations or required actions. The survey employs a numerical rating system and allows for institutions to provide narrative responses as well as to call the OIG with any concerns. The OIG collects, aggregates, and anonymizes survey responses for distribution semiannually to the FCA Board and Chief Examiner.

The OIG issued a <u>survey report</u> on March 31, 2025, detailing responses from System institutions examined during the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 2024 and providing cumulative survey data for the entirety of fiscal year 2024. Prior survey reports are available on the <u>OIG's online reports page</u>.

Charge Card Activities Fiscal Year 2024

Pursuant to the Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012⁷ and implementing OMB guidance, the OIG conducts periodic risk assessments of FCA charge card programs to analyze the risk of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases. The OIG annually reports to OMB on the Agency's progress in implementing any charge card-related recommendations.

On January 16, 2025, the OIG issued the 2025 Charge Card Risk Assessment to the FCA Board and senior leadership. The OIG also issued a letter to OMB reporting that there were no charge card-related recommendations initiated, closed, or open during fiscal year 2024.

Management Challenges

As required by the Reports Consolidation Act of 2002,⁸ the OIG annually prepares a statement summarizing what the IG considers to be the most serious management and performance challenges facing FCA. The statement also briefly assesses the Agency's progress in meeting those challenges and highlights relevant OIG oversight work.

The <u>fiscal year 2024 report</u> was issued to the FCA Board on October 15, 2024. FCA management's response can be found in the Agency's <u>Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2024</u>.



⁷ 41 U.S.C. § 1909(d).

^{8 31} U.S.C. § 3516(d).

OUTREACH, COLLABORATION, AND OTHER INITIATIVES

FCA Employees

The cooperation of FCA employees is essential to all aspects of OIG oversight. Accordingly, the OIG has several ongoing initiatives geared toward educating FCA employees on the OIG's mission and authorities. These include a quarterly intra-agency newsletter, *The dIG*, which spotlights the office's functions and provides recent examples of OIG oversight products government-wide. The OIG has also promoted awareness of its mission and functions through presentations to FCA employees, its public-facing website, and displaying of posters in Agency common areas.

Congress

In the interest of fulfilling its responsibility to keep Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to FCA programs and operations, the OIG endeavors to respond expeditiously to all congressional requests and to periodically brief oversight committees on recent OIG activity. As noted earlier in this report, this reporting period saw the OIG conclude an inspection initiated in response to a congressional request.

Inspector General Community

The OIG is active in the IG community, with staff lending their efforts and expertise to the work of various CIGIE committees, working groups, and initiatives, including:

- The CIGIE Audit Committee;
- The CIGIE Inspection and Evaluation Committee;
- The CIGIE Legislation Committee;
- The Council of Counsels to the Inspectors General;
- The Assistant Inspectors General for Investigations Subcommittee; and
- The Whistleblower Protection Coordinators Working Group.

Reviews of Proposed Legislation, Regulations, and Policies

The OIG reviews proposed and existing legislation, regulations, and policies that affect Agency programs and operations or the mission and functions of the OIG. When appropriate, the OIG makes recommendations regarding the impact of such legislation, regulations, and policies on economy or efficiency, the prevention and detection of fraud, waste, and abuse, or the integrity and independence of the OIG. This reporting period, the OIG provided input to the CIGIE Legislation Committee on CIGIE's legislative priorities for the 119th Congress and to the CIGIE Investigations Committee on proposed updates to the CIGIE *Quality Standards for Investigations* and related guidance.

APPENDIX I: PEER REVIEWS

To ensure adherence to relevant professional standards, each OIG is subject to periodic external peer reviews. Information on peer reviews conducted by and of the FCA OIG is provided below.

Reports of external peer reviews of FCA OIG operations may be found on the <u>OIG's online reports page</u> and on <u>Oversight.gov</u>. Reports of peer reviews conducted by the FCA OIG may be located on the websites of the reviewed OIGs.

Audit

Generally accepted government auditing standards require any organization conducting audits in accordance with those standards to undergo an external peer review at least once every three years. These peer reviews conclude in a rating of pass, pass with deficiencies, or fail. A rating of pass signifies that the audit organization's system of quality control has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the organization with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards and legal and regulatory requirements in all material respects.

The FCA OIG's audit function was not subject to peer review during the reporting period. The most recent peer review was completed by the Federal Trade Commission OIG on June 9, 2022. The FCA OIG received the highest rating available, *pass*, and <u>the report</u> made no recommendations for corrective action.

The FCA OIG did not conduct any audit peer reviews during the reporting period.

Inspection and Evaluation

The CIGIE Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation require members of CIGIE that conduct inspections or evaluations under those standards to undergo an external peer review every three years. For inspection and evaluation peer reviews conducted before April 2024, reports did not include an overall rating (such as pass or fail) but stated whether the reviewed OIG's policies and procedures were generally consistent with CIGIE standards and whether the OIG's work generally complied with those standards. Under revised CIGIE guidance, peer reviews conducted since April 2024 include an overall rating of pass, pass with deficiencies, or fail. A rating of pass signifies that the reviewed OIG's system of quality control gives reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with the CIGIE quality standards.

The FCA OIG's inspection and evaluation function was not subject to peer review during the reporting period. The most recent peer review was completed by the Securities and Exchange Commission OIG on July 8, 2022. The FCA OIG received the highest rating available and <u>the report</u> made no recommendations for corrective action.

On March 4, 2025, the FCA OIG concluded an inspection and evaluation <u>peer review</u> of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) OIG, which received the highest rating available, *pass*. The USAID OIG agreed with, and implemented responsive actions to, the report recommendations.

Investigation

CIGIE's Qualitative Assessment Review Guidelines for Investigative Operations of Federal Offices of Inspector General establish an independent external evaluation process for investigative operations. The objective of an investigative peer review is to determine whether internal control systems are in place and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance that an OIG's investigative operations comply with CIGIE's Quality Standards for Investigations. Reviewed OIGs are assessed a rating of compliant or non-compliant. While the guidelines do not mandate that OIGs without statutory law enforcement authority—like the FCA OIG—undergo investigative peer reviews, they encourage voluntary participation.

The FCA OIG did not undergo an investigative peer review during the reporting period. The OIG's investigative function is scheduled to be peer reviewed beginning in spring 2025. The <u>most recent peer review</u> of the FCA OIG's investigative program was performed by the Securities and Exchange Commission OIG for the one-year period ending September 30, 2007.

At the end of the reporting period, the FCA OIG was conducting an investigative peer review of the Federal Election Commission OIG.

Outstanding Recommendations

There are no outstanding recommendations from any peer review conducted by another OIG that have not been fully implemented.

There are no recommendations from any peer review conducted by the FCA OIG that remain outstanding or that have not been fully implemented.

APPENDIX II: REPORTS ISSUED

Table 4 lists all audit, inspection, and evaluation reports issued during the reporting period. For each report, Table 4 lists the dollar value of questioned costs (including the dollar value of unsupported costs), the dollar value of recommendations that funds be put to better use, and whether a management decision had been made by the end of the reporting period.

_	_	-	-	_
7	٠.	h	-	1
	a	u	æ	4

Table 4				
Report Title	Dollar Value of Q	uestioned Costs	Dollar Value of Recommendations that Funds be Put to Better Use	Management Decision Made by the End of the Reporting Period
	Total	Unsupported		
Farm Credit Administration's Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2024	\$0	\$0	\$0	Yes
Farm Credit Administration's Inclusion of the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act's "Anti-gag" Statement in Nondisclosure Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0	Yes
Farm Credit Administration's Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 for Fiscal Year 2024	\$0	\$0	\$0	Yes

Definitions

Management Decision: The evaluation by agency management of the findings and recommendations included in an audit report and the issuance of a final decision by management concerning its response to the findings and recommendations, including actions concluded to be necessary.

Questioned Cost: A cost that is questioned by the OIG because of an alleged violation of a provision of a law, regulation, contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or other agreement or document governing the expenditure of funds; a finding that, at the time of the audit, the cost is not supported by adequate documentation; or a finding that the expenditure of funds for the intended purpose is unnecessary or unreasonable.

Recommendation that Funds be Put to Better Use: A recommendation that funds could be used more efficiently if agency management took actions to implement and complete the recommendation, including reductions in outlays; de-obligation of funds from programs or operations; withdrawal of interest subsidy costs on loans or loan guarantees, insurance, or bonds; costs not incurred by implementing recommended improvements related to the operations of the agency, a contractor, or grantee; avoidance of unnecessary expenditures noted in pre-award reviews of contract or grant agreements; or any other savings which are specifically identified.

Unsupported Cost: A cost that is questioned by the OIG because the OIG found that, at the time of the audit, such cost is not supported by adequate documentation.

APPENDIX III: OPEN RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no recommendations made before the reporting period, for which corrective action had not been completed as of March 31, 2025. An up-to-date list of open OIG recommendations may be found at Oversight.gov/recommendations.

INDEX OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The following is an index to semiannual reporting requirements found at 5 U.S.C. § 405(b).9

Description	Page
(1) Significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of FCA programs and operations and associated reports and recommendations for corrective action made by the OIG	4-6
(2) Recommendations made before the reporting period, for which corrective action has not been completed	15
(3) Summary of significant investigations closed during the reporting period	None
(4) Convictions during the reporting period resulting from investigations	None
(5) Information regarding each audit, inspection, or evaluation report issued during the reporting period	14
(6) Management decisions made with respect to any audit, inspection, or evaluation issued during a previous reporting period	None
(7) Information described under section 804(b) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996	None
(8) Peer reviews conducted by another OIG	12-13
(9) Recommendations from any peer review conducted by another OIG that have not been fully implemented	13
(10) Peer reviews conducted of another OIG, including recommendations made from any previous peer review that remain outstanding or have not been fully implemented	12-13
(11) Statistical tables for investigations and referrals	8
(12) Metrics for developing investigative statistics	8
(13) Investigations involving a senior government employee where allegations of misconduct were substantiated	None
(14) Instances of whistleblower retaliation	None
(15)(A) Agency attempts to interfere with the independence of the OIG	None
(15)(B) Reports made under 5 U.S.C. § 406(c)(2)	None
(16)(A) Closed audits, inspections, and evaluations not disclosed to the public	6
(16)(B) Closed investigations involving a senior government employee not disclosed to the public	None

There were no contract audit reports issued during the reporting period that would be reportable under section 845 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.¹⁰

Reporting required by the Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022¹¹ is found at page 8.

⁹ Reflects amendments made in the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, Pub. L. 117-263, § 5273 (Dec. 23, 2022) to the IG Act, 5 U.S.C. app. § 5. The IG Act was recodified at 5 U.S.C. §§ 401–424 shortly thereafter by Pub. L. 117-286 (Dec. 27, 2022), but the recodification did not address the changes effected in the December 23 act.

¹⁰ Pub. L. 110-181 (Jan. 28, 2008).

¹¹ Pub. L. 117-348 (Jan. 5, 2023).



REPORT FRAUD, WASTE, ABUSE, & MISMANAGEMENT

Fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement in government concerns everyone: Office of Inspector General staff, Farm Credit Administration employees, Congress, and the general public. We actively solicit allegations of any fraud, inefficient and wasteful practices, abuse of authority, and mismanagement related to FCA programs and operations. You can report allegations to us in several ways:

Online: https://apps.fca.gov/oigcomplaint

Phone: (800) 437-7322 (Toll-Free)

(703) 883-4316

Email: fca-ig-hotline@rcn.com

Mail: 1501 Farm Credit Drive

McLean, VA 22102-5090

To learn more about reporting wrongdoing to the OIG, please visit our website at https://www.fca.gov/about/inspector-general.