



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 31, 2025

TO: Brendan Carr, Chairman
Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner
Nathan Simington, Commissioner
Anna Gomez, Commissioner
Mark Stephens, Managing Director

Fara Damelin

FROM: Fara Damelin, Inspector General

SUBJECT: Report Transmittal: Open Recommendations from FCC OIG Investigations

Please find the attached consolidated report of open recommendations arising out of FCC OIG's investigations to help the Commission reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in FCC programs and operations.

We issue this report to inform and educate the Commission and other stakeholders, including Congress and the American taxpayers, of significant risks and gaps in internal controls found by FCC OIG's investigative work over the years, and recommendations offered to help the Commission address the issues identified. We hope this resource will help the Commission track its progress in addressing previous recommendations arising from FCC OIG investigations.

The Inspector General Act, as amended, requires FCC OIG to make recommendations to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of agency programs and operations and to prevent and detect fraud and abuse. In addition to successfully seeking civil, criminal, and administrative penalties against those who defraud FCC programs, FCC OIG leverages its investigative work to develop recommendations and share lessons learned to execute this statutory mandate.

Over the past decade, we reported recommendations from our investigations to the Commission in contemporaneous semiannual reports, memoranda, and advisories. We also reported when the Commission adopted our recommendations or took other corrective actions to address identified risks and enhance internal controls. As noted, this report consolidates unresolved recommendations from our Office of Investigations (OI) into a single resource.

As part of the report's development process, we shared this information with FCC's Office of the Managing Director and other program officials and incorporated their feedback. As a result of our dialogue we learned about important steps FCC has recently taken to address the risks we previously identified and we closed several recommendations as a result.

Significantly, we learned about improvements to the National Verifier manual review, which has been repeatedly identified as a major entry point of fraud in multiple FCC programs. We also learned about the considerable progress FCC has made regarding other open investigation-derived recommendations as it continues to work to resolve the problems our investigations exposed. In sum, the Commission has made significant progress in addressing these recommendations, and we appreciate the valuable feedback and assistance we received from FCC management and program officials, as well as their attention to these important issues.

This report and all associated recommendations will be posted and tracked on www.oversight.gov, where we also post open recommendations from our audits, evaluations, and inspections. We look forward to continuing to work with FCC on strengthening program and operational integrity.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly, or feel free to reach out to Sharon Diskin, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 418 - 1734 or Sharon.Diskin@fcc.gov, or Eric Phelps, Senior Investigative Attorney, at (202) 418 - 0423 or Eric.Phelps@fcc.gov.

cc: Scott Delacourt, Chief of Staff
Adam Candeub, General Counsel
Trent Harkrader, Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau
Dan Daly, Deputy Managing Director