

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE
PALM BEACH COUNTY INSPECTOR GENERAL COMMITTEE
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

JUNE 8, 2023

**THURSDAY
2:00 p.m.**

**COMMISSION CHAMBERS
WEISMAN GOVERNMENTAL CENTER**

MEMBERS:

Peter L. Cruise
Michael S. Kridel
Danielle Sherriff, Vice Chair
Carey Haughwout, Public Defender
David Aronberg, State Attorney
Michael H. Kugler, Chair
Rodney G. Romano

INSPECTOR GENERAL STAFF PRESENT:

John A. Carey, County Inspector General (IG)

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE STAFF PRESENT:

Danielle Freeman, Deputy Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

The chair called the meeting to order at 2:42 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: State Attorney David Aronberg, Commissioner Peter L. Cruise, Chair Michael H. Kugler, and Vice Chair Danielle Sherriff

Absent: Commissioner Michael S. Kridel, Public Defender Carey Haughwout, and Commissioner Rodney G. Romano

III. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

IG John Carey requested permission to abbreviate his presentation due to time constraints.

IV. APPROVAL OF IG COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MOTION to approve the November 3, 2022, meeting minutes. Motion by Commissioner Cruise, seconded by Vice Chair Sherriff, and carried 4-0.

V. SIX-MONTH STATUS REPORT

a. Presentation by Inspector General Carey

Mr. Carey initiated the presentation by acknowledging the contributions of staff members and providing an overview of recent intakes and investigations.

Stuart Robinson, Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Director of Investigations, continued the presentation and provided a summary of the reports that had been produced in the prior six months.

Mr. Robinson highlighted the following topics:

- misappropriation of assistance funds allocated during the Covid pandemic;
- fraud perpetrated by business grant applicants;
- fraud related to rental assistance programs;
- referral of investigations to law enforcement;
- financial compensation received by the County;
- ongoing investigations concerning larger conspiracies; and
- collaboration with federal and local law enforcement entities.

Mr. Carey discussed several cases that had been resolved after referral to law enforcement.

Tony Montero, OIG Director of Contract Oversight and Evaluations, provided an overview of an OIG investigation into a library renovation contract for the Town of Lantana.

Mr. Carey discussed additional contract oversight activities and cited IG accomplishments that were not reflected in the reports.

Hilary Bojan, OIG Director of Audit, discussed an audit of the Urban League of Palm Beach County, an audit of the City of Boca Raton's accounts payable process, and a review of the Town of Highland Beach's IT network security.

Mr. Carey spoke about noncompliance issues encountered during a review of the City of Atlantis's IT network security. He also provided an overview of training and outreach efforts by the OIG and discussed the office's budget and staffing.

Kalinthia Dillard, OIG Deputy Inspector General and General Counsel, discussed strategic planning and the office's goals.

Mr. Carey concluded his presentation with a discussion of the following:

- the OIG team's intention to emphasize communication, outreach, and formation of partnerships;
- plans to concentrate on sales tax-funded projects and continued investigation of fraud related to pandemic assistance;
- the implementation of a new hotline number; and
- a summary of the OIG's accomplishments to date.

b. Discussion

The commissioners praised the OIG team for their efforts.

c. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VI. New Business

No new business was discussed.

VII. Adjournment

At 3:39 p.m., the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:



Chair/Vice Chair