January 2022

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In response to a recommendation in a 2015 report, Compliance Follow-up Audit of the Process To Request and Prioritize Physical Security-Related Activities at Overseas Posts (AUD-ACF-16-20), the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations and the Bureau of Diplomatic Security implemented processes to prioritize physical security related deficiencies by category. The prioritizations will be performed based on a comprehensive list of all physical security needs and will be periodically updated based on changes in risk factors or posts’ needs.

In response to a recommendation in a 2020 report, Audit of the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations Process To Execute Construction Closeout Procedures for Selected Capital Construction Projects (AUD-CGI-20-43), the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations improved the execution of closeout procedures for capital construction projects. Specifically, the bureau established measures to ensure that a complete and accurate punch list is provided with the issuance of the Certificate of Substantial Completion. Punch list and warranty list items will also be appropriately tracked and cleared to ensure consistent application of the process across all construction projects.

In response to a recommendation in a 2018 report, Inspection of Embassy Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (ISP-I-18-18), Embassy Addis Ababa collected funds from employees who had internet services paid by the embassy in FY 2017. This resulted in funds put to better use of $82,791.33.

In January 2022, an individual was arrested on allegations of wire fraud and conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud. Working closely with U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) officials, OIG special agents determined that several USAID personnel allowed LES members to use their addresses to receive packages from the U.S. In addition, agents determined that several LES utilized the names and addresses of Department and USAID employees to receive packages without their knowledge. Previously, three subjects were terminated from their positions, one had their clearance suspended, and three actions are still pending.

NEW WORK STARTED

- Audit of the Department of State FY 2022 Information Security Program for Sensitive Compartmented Information Systems
- Audit of U.S. Agency for Global Media FY 2021 Compliance With the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019
- Inspection of Embassy Oslo, Norway
The Office of Inspector General conducts independent oversight of the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for Global Media on behalf of American taxpayers to:

- Promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse.
- Identify vulnerabilities and recommend constructive solutions.

Report waste, fraud, or abuse 24 hours a day to the OIG hotline: [www.stateoig.gov/HOTLINE](http://www.stateoig.gov/HOTLINE)

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- Inspection of Embassy Tallinn, Estonia
- Targeted Review of the Department of State’s Record Retirement Process
- Inspection of the American Institute in Taiwan/ Washington (AIT/Washington)

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**REPORTS ISSUED**

- Inspection of the Bureau of Administration, Office of the Executive Director ([ISP-I-22-07](http://ISP-I-22-07))