

Inspectors General

by

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Recently Trump fired 17 Inspectors General (IG) from various agencies. Apparently the agencies involved are:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Energy
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Interior Department of Labor
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Treasury
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of, Commerce
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Office of Personnel Management
- Small Business Administration
- Social Security Administration
- State Department
- Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

It is not surprising that the firings have raised the ire of democrats and watchdog groups who claim that the dismissals make it easier for Trump to reform the government. Several members of Congress and those fired claim that the firings were not legal because they violated the 30-day notification to Congress clause in the 2004 amended [Inspector General Act](#) and the need to provide “[substantive rationale, including detailed and case specific reasons.](#)”

An inspector general is someone who leads independent investigations, audits or inspections when waste, fraud and/or abuse are suspected in the agency they serve. Removing selected IGs at the beginning of a new administration is not new, especially if the IG has failed to carry out his assigned congressional duties. The Inspector General Act, assigns five responsibilities that inspectors general must carry out.

1. Conduct independent and objective audits, investigations and inspections
2. Prevent and detect waste, fraud and abuse,
3. Promote economy, effectiveness and efficiency,
4. Review pending legislation and regulation, and

5. Keep the agency head and Congress fully and currently informed.

There are more than 70 federal IGs in the government. Of the thirty-two IGs requiring Senate confirmation, Trump fired 17 of them. Considering the number of IGs positions, it would be normal to suspect that there will be some “bad apples.” It has been postulated that the firings are largely due to IGs not fully supporting Trump and his America First agenda.

Although Congress is demanding “reasons” for the firings, Congress and others need to recognize several things. First is that the 30-day notice that is written into the revised Inspectors General Act is absolute lunacy. Who in their right mind would give anyone a 30-day notice for a person being fired to cover-up any misdeeds, to gather and steal critical or classified information/documents. At the very least, the person being fired should be locked out of their office immediately, suspended, or moved to a different department entirely. Congress needs to address this aspect of the Act.

Second, as seen with recent USAID scandals on the misuse of funds which were not used to fulfill its mission, it is evident that the IG being fired did not do his duty to follow the first three mandates of his responsibilities (see above). In other words, if a federal employee is not doing their job, why should they remain on the taxpayers roles?

Third, investigations of the DOD disclosed many issues that were counter to mission “[to defend the security of our country and sustain American influence abroad](#).” The pervasive DEI narrative is counter to creating an effective military force. Additionally the mental and physical wellbeing, of our soldiers is not achieved by providing medical services, such as abortions and transgender operations, which do not support the readiness of the military or our troops in the field. The DOD IG failed to promote the effectiveness and efficiency of our military.

Investigations of the “fired” IGs actions or inactions, have disclosed gross dereliction of duty and disregard for the consequences that followed. The consequences resulting from the poor, willful, and malfeasance conduct of these public servants has resulted in the degeneration of our national security and economic wellbeing.

The fired Inspectors General are:

1. Department of Agriculture - Phyllis Fong
2. Department of Commerce - Roderick Anderson
3. Department of Defense - Robert Storch
4. Department of Education - Sandra D. Bruce

5. Department of Energy - Teri L. Donaldson
6. Department of Health and Human Services - Christi Grimm
7. Department of House and Urban Development - Rae Oliver Davis
8. Department of Interior - Mark Greenblatt
9. Department of Labor - Larry Turner
10. Department of State - Cardell Richardson Sr.
11. Department of Transportation - Eric Soskin
12. Department of Veterans Affairs - Michael Missal
13. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Sean O'Donnell
14. Office of Personnel Management - Krista A. Boyd
15. Small Business Administration - Mike Ware
16. Social Security Administration - Michelle L. Anderson
17. United States Intelligence Community - Michael Atkinson

As expected the firings drew lots of comment from the liberal media, watchdog agencies, Democrats, and a few Republicans.

Senator Grassley (R-IA) stated "There may be good reason the IGs were fired. We need to know that if so. I'd like further explanation from President Trump."

Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) summed up the feelings of many by saying, "I don't understand why one would fire individuals whose mission it is to root out waste, fraud and abuse. I don't understand it." What this tells us is that our senators and representatives have not kept their eye on what has been going on to invalidate our form of government in favor of socialism.

A letter sent to Trump, and signed by 20 Democrats, called the firings an "attack on transparency and accountability" and an "attack our democracy, and undermine the safety of the American people."

[MSN](#), an extreme anti-Trump, liberal news, media outlet, proclaims that, "The remaining Inspectors General now face the vexing decision of whether to soften their oversight of the new administration, or pledge to their staff that they will not back down on tough investigations — at the risk of being fired." This is nothing more than more liberal fear mongering.