

DESIGNATION OF MARK ELMER PRIEBE AS ACTING
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

NOTIFICATION OF THE INTENT TO DESIGNATE MARK ELMER
PRIEBE AS ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION, PURSUANT TO 5 U.S.C. 403 NOTE; ADDED BY
PUBLIC LAW 117-263, SEC. 5203(a); (136 STAT. 3229)



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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, November 7, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am hereby notifying the Congress that I intend to designate Mark Elmer Priebe (Director of non-Federal audit, Department of Education, Office of Inspector General) as Acting Inspector General of the Department of Education, in place of the current Acting Inspector General, Heidi Semann. Such designation will be effective no less than 30 days from delivery of this message.

The Constitution vests “the executive Power” in the President, who has a duty to “take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed.” U.S. Const., Art. II, § 1, cl. 1; *id.* at § 3. In exercising that power and duty, I have determined that, based on the qualities outlined in 5 U.S.C. 403(a) and the confidence I must place in my appointees, Mr. Priebe is the best available person to serve as Acting Inspector General of the Department of Education at this time. In my judgment, Ms. Semann can better serve the Nation performing other duties (i.e., returning to her position as Senior Special Agent with the Office of Inspector General for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau).

I am providing this notification as a courtesy, a show of comity and respect between the executive and legislative branches. It should not be interpreted as a concession that the Congress can limit my power to remove any officer. “Because no single person could fulfill [the President’s] responsibilit[ies] alone, the Framers expected that the President would rely on subordinate officers for assistance.” *Seila Law LLC v. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau*, 591 U.S. 197, 203–204 (2020). And the Constitution gives the President “the authority to remove those who assist him in carrying out his duties.” *Free Enterprise Fund v. Public Company Accounting Oversight Board*, 561 U.S. 477, 513–514 (2010). “Without such power, the President could not be held fully accountable for discharging his own responsibilities; the buck would stop somewhere else.” *Id.* at 514.

Ultimately, I have determined that the priorities of my Administration will be better implemented with this individual in this office. Therefore, I am apprising you of my intention to designate Mr.

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Priebe as Acting Inspector General of the Department of Education, effective no less than 30 days from delivery of this message.
Sincerely,

DONALD J. TRUMP.

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