

Office of Inspector General, USDA**§ 2620.5**

(1) General fraud, waste, and abuse hotline:

(i) File complaint online: <http://www.usda.gov/oig/hotline.htm> (click on "Submit a Complaint" button);

(ii) Telephone: (800) 424-9121, (202) 690-1622, or (202) 690-1202 (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf);

(iii) Facsimile: (202) 690-2474; or

(iv) Write a letter to United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General, P.O. Box 23399, Washington, DC 20026.

(2) Bribery/Assault Line: (202) 720-7257 (24 hours a day).

(3) Whistleblower Protection Ombudsman. USDA employees may contact the Ombudsman via email at: OIGombudsman@oig.usda.gov. Additional information about the Ombudsman is available online at <https://www.usda.gov/oig/ombudsman.htm>.

§ 2610.5 Delegations of authority.

(a) AIGs, Directors, and Counsel listed in § 2610.2, and Audit Directors and SACs listed in § 2610.3, are authorized to take whatever actions are necessary to carry out their assigned functions. This authority may be re-delegated.

(b) The IG reserves the right to establish audit and investigation policies, program, procedures, and standards; to allocate appropriated funds; to determine audit and investigative jurisdiction; and to exercise any of the powers or functions or perform any of the duties referenced in the above delegation.

PART 2620—AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

Sec.

2620.1 General statement.

2620.2 Public inspection.

2620.3 Requests.

2620.4 Denials.

2620.5 Appeals.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, 552; Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. 3.

SOURCE: 81 FR 94230, Dec. 23, 2016, unless otherwise noted.

§ 2620.1 General statement.

This part supplements the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture implementing the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552 (FOIA) (subpart A of part 1 of this title, including the appendix), and governs the availability of records of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to the public upon request.

§ 2620.2 Public inspection.

The FOIA requires that certain materials be made available for public inspection in an electronic format. OIG records are available for public inspection on OIG's public Web site, <https://www.usda.gov/oig/foia.htm>.

§ 2620.3 Requests.

Requests for OIG records shall be submitted to OIG's Office of Counsel and will be processed in accordance with subpart A of part 1 of this title. Specific guidance on how to submit requests (including current contact methods) is available through OIG's Web site, <https://www.usda.gov/oig/foiareq.htm>, and USDA's public FOIA Web site.

§ 2620.4 Denials.

If it is determined that a requested record is exempt from mandatory disclosure and that discretionary release would be improper, the Counsel to the Inspector General or the Counsel's designee shall give written notice of denial in accordance with subpart A of part 1 of this title.

§ 2620.5 Appeals.

The denial of a requested record may be appealed in accordance with subpart A of part 1 of this title. Appeals shall be addressed to the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Whitten Building, Suite 441-E, Washington, DC 20250-2308. The Inspector General will give notice of the determination concerning an appeal in accordance with subpart A of part 1 of this title.

PARTS 2621–2699 [RESERVED]