



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

APR 20 2010

Memorandum

To: Deputy Secretary
Solicitor
Assistant Secretaries
Deputy Assistant Secretaries
Heads of Bureaus and Offices

From: Secretary *Van Salazar*

Subject: Cooperation with the Office of Inspector General

As public servants, we must cooperate with the Office of Inspector General as that office fulfills its responsibilities as provided in the Inspector General Act. The Inspector General is a vital part of the senior leadership team here at the Department, pursuing economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in Department programs and operations, as well as preventing and detecting fraud and abuse.

The Inspector General Act (Act) provides the Inspector General access to information within the Department. The Act states, "the Inspector General is authorized to have access to all records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, or other material available to the Department relating to its programs and operations (Section 6(a)(1))." Information that the Inspector General has access to may include information that may be privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under law such as the Freedom of Information Act or the Privacy Act. In providing privileged or confidential information to the Inspector General's office, Department employees should identify and clearly mark such information. The Office of Inspector General will treat such information in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations. Providing such information to the Office of Inspector General will not constitute a waiver of any privileges that may attach to the information. In addition to the Act, the Department Manual 110 DM 4 provides for the responsibilities for the Office of Inspector General and its relationship with Department bureaus and offices.

If you have any questions about your obligations to cooperate with requests by authorized representatives of the Office of Inspector General, you may contact your supervisors or the Office of the Solicitor. Please advise your senior managers of the contents of this memo.