



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
Washington, D.C. 20240

MAR - 7 2005

Memorandum

To: Acting Chief, United States Park Police

From: Earl E. Devaney
Inspector General

Subject: U.S. Park Police Compensatory Time

Earlier this year, we initiated an evaluation at your request into the U.S. Park Police's conversion of compensatory time to overtime payments. During fiscal years 2002 and 2003, the Park Police received supplemental funding appropriated by the Congress to cover costs such as payment of overtime for increased security measures required since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. In fiscal year 2004, this supplemental funding was no longer available, although Park Police officers were still required to work beyond their regular duty hours to meet the continued security demands, which resulted in an increase in the amount of earned compensatory time.

Accordingly, we expected to find a high rate of compensatory time converted to overtime pay, which is calculated at time-and-a-half. While we did find that compensatory time, both used or converted, represented a significant portion (66 percent) of total overtime charges to the Park Police in fiscal year 2004, we also found that the majority of compensatory time was used and did not convert to overtime pay at the rate of time-and-a-half. We also found that overtime payments did not increase significantly in 2004 because the Park Police shifted agency priorities and implemented 12-hour work shifts.

We want to thank you and your staff for your valuable input during our evaluation. If you have any questions about the results of our evaluation please call me at (202) 208-5745.