

**DHS Open Unresolved  
Recommendations Older  
Than Six Months, as of  
March 31, 2022**





## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Department of Homeland Security

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Washington, D.C. 20528 / [www.oig.dhs.gov](http://www.oig.dhs.gov)

June 30, 2022

The Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General is committed to helping DHS effectively execute its critical missions. To do that, we conduct and supervise independent audits, investigations, and inspections of DHS programs and operations, and recommend ways for DHS to carry out its responsibilities effectively, efficiently, and economically. We also issue recommendations and pursue cases to address fraud, abuse, mismanagement, and waste of taxpayer funds entrusted to DHS.

Consistent with our obligations under the *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended, to report on the progress of corrective actions in response to our recommendations, this report lists open and unresolved recommendations made to DHS in 22 reports issued between May 2015 and March 2022.

These recommendations remain open and unresolved until DHS submits to DHS OIG a corrective action plan that addresses the findings and recommendations, including estimated completion dates, and DHS OIG accepts the plan. A recommendation is closed once DHS completes the agreed upon corrective actions and DHS OIG verifies the actions were completed. DHS OIG may close recommendations at the request of DHS or based on special circumstances.

We continue to work with DHS and component leadership to resolve these recommendations. As a result, since the beginning of fiscal year 2022, the number of recommendations open and unresolved longer than 6 months has decreased from 42 to 33.

For your convenience, each corresponding report title is hyperlinked to the report on our website, [www.oig.dhs.gov](http://www.oig.dhs.gov). Additionally, please visit our most recent [Semiannual Report to Congress](#) for information about recommendations.

OPEN UNRESOLVED RECOMMENDATIONS OLDER THAN 6 MONTHS

Report Number	Report Title	Issue Date	Rec Number	Recommendation Text	DHS Component	OIG Reason Code*
OIG-15-85	<a href="#"><u>DHS Missing Data Needed to Strengthen Its Immigration Enforcement Efforts</u></a>	5/4/2015	1	We recommend that the Department of Homeland Security Deputy Secretary require the Office of Policy to develop and implement a plan to collect, analyze, and report data on the Department's use of prosecutorial discretion to assess immigration enforcement activities and improve future policy. The plan should include steps taken to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the prosecutorial discretion data.	SEC, DSEC, COS	B
OIG-17-112	<a href="#"><u>Covert Testing of TSA's Checkpoint Screening Effectiveness</u></a>	9/27/2017	6	Classified Report. Recommendation is SSI.	TSA	C
OIG-18-04	<a href="#"><u>(U) FAMS' Contribution to Aviation Transportation Security Is Questionable</u></a>	10/24/2017	2	Classified Report. Recommendation is SSI.	TSA	B
			3	Classified Report. Recommendation is SSI.	TSA	B
			4	Classified Report. Recommendation is SSI.	TSA	B
OIG-18-36	<a href="#"><u>ICE Faces Challenges to Screen Aliens Who May Be Known or Suspected Terrorists (REDACTED)</u></a>	1/5/2018	2	We recommend that the Assistant Director of Field Operations immediately correct the limitations and challenges identified with KSTEP by ensuring ERO offices have the infrastructure necessary to communicate on known or suspected terrorists.	ICE	B
OIG-19-17	<a href="#"><u>FAMS' Contribution to International Flight</u></a>	9/19/2018	1	Classified Report. Recommendation is SSI.	TSA	C

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	<a href="#"><u>Security Is Questionable</u></a>					
			2	Classified Report. Recommendation is SSI.	TSA	C
OIG-19-23	<a href="#"><u>Border Patrol Needs a Staffing Model to Better Plan for Hiring More Agents</u></a>	2/28/2019	1	We recommend the Under Secretary for Management of DHS ensure CBP and Border Patrol expedite development and implementation of a workforce staffing model for U.S. Border Patrol as required by Congress to better inform staffing and resource deployment decisions.	CBP	B
OIG-19-57	<a href="#"><u>A Joint Review of Law Enforcement Cooperation on the Southwest Border between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Homeland Security Investigations</u></a>	7/31/2019	5	To improve cooperation between FBI and HSI along the Southwest border, we recommend that FBI and HSI: Jointly develop a memorandum of understanding or similar written agreement governing Federal Bureau of Investigation and Homeland Security Investigations operations on overlapping criminal investigative areas.	ICE	A
OIG-19-66	<a href="#"><u>FEMA Did Not Sufficiently Safeguard Use of Transportation Assistance Funds</u></a>	9/30/2019	1	We recommend the FEMA Assistant Administrator for Recovery strengthen FEMA's transportation assistance policies and procedures and coordinate with FEMA Assistant Administrator for Mission Support to: a) require the collection and retention of eligibility documentation or where applicable, document the steps taken to validate applicant statements in FEMA's system of record, and b) ensure future information technology updates support the collection, use, and retention of unique Vehicle Identification Numbers to enable FEMA to cross-reference national databases to confirm insurance coverage and identify applicants' second vehicles.	FEMA	A

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			3	We recommend the FEMA Assistant Administrator for Recovery, in accordance with the Stafford and Improper Payments Acts; develop controls to identify payments not used for critical transportation needs.	FEMA	A
OIG-20-19	<a href="#"><u>PALMS Funding and Payments Did Not Comply with Federal Appropriations Law</u></a>	3/24/2020	2	We recommend the Under Secretary for Management identify any violations of the Antideficiency Act related to the funding of PALMS and report all violations in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 1351 and Section 145 of the Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A 11.	MGMT	A
			8	We recommend the Chief Procurement Officer issue a memorandum to DHS headquarters and components instructing its procurement offices to pay for PALMS subscriptions only after satisfactory delivery of all associated services.	MGMT	A
			9	We recommend the Chief Procurement Officer develop policies and procedures to ensure future Cloud Services contracts do not violate the statutory prohibition on advance payments.	MGMT	A
OIG-20-23	<a href="#"><u>FEMA Has Made More than \$3 Billion in Improper and Potentially Fraudulent Payments for Home Repair Assistance since 2003</u></a>	4/6/2020	1	We recommend the Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator, due to the questioned costs exceeding \$3 billion, implement a process to collect documentation and verify eligibility for applicants claiming no homeowner's insurance prior to providing IHP home repair assistance payouts.	FEMA	C
			2	We recommend the Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator include the IHP as susceptible to significant improper payments	FEMA	C

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				subject to annual improper payments estimation and reporting.		
OIG-20-52	<a href="#"><u>CBP Has Not Demonstrated Acquisition Capabilities Needed to Secure the Southern Border</u></a>	7/14/2020	1	We recommend the Under Secretary for Management of DHS require CBP to conduct an up-to-date independent Analysis of Alternatives to identify the most appropriate and effective solutions to obtain complete operational control of the southern border.	CBP, MGMT, PLCY	A
			3	We recommend the Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans for DHS determine the need for an implementation plan for obtaining and maintaining complete operational control of the southern border, as instructed by the Comprehensive Southern Border Security Study and Strategy.	CBP, MGMT, PLCY	A
OIG-20-59	<a href="#"><u>HSI Effectively Contributes to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, But Partnering Agreements Could Be Improved - REDACTED</u></a>	8/13/2020	4	We recommend the Under Secretary, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans, in consultation with the Under Secretary of Management, coordinate with DOJ and State to develop an agreement that facilitates the direct sharing of passport information within the JTTF environment through State's formal MOU process.	ICE, MGMT, PLCY, TSA	A
			5	We recommend the Under Secretary of Management coordinate with the Information Sharing and Safeguarding Governance Board to ensure: - ICE and TSA develop an agreement for TSA to directly process Secure Flight data requested for use by JTTF or HSI JTTF agents investigating terrorism activities or performing task force specific missions, and - DHS JTTF contributors mitigate data restrictions or delays	ICE, MGMT, PLCY, TSA	A

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				pertaining to law enforcement and intelligence investigations.		
OIG-20-60	<a href="#"><u>FEMA Has Paid Billions in Improper Payments for SBA Dependent Other Needs Assistance since 2003</u></a>	8/12/2020	1	We recommend the FEMA Administrator, due to the more than \$3.3 billion in questioned costs throughout a 16-year period, implement a process to collect income and dependent documentation on SBA Dependent ONA applicants to ensure payments are proper.	FEMA	C
			2	We recommend the FEMA Administrator, due to the questioned costs in recommendation 1, implement a verification process to ensure accuracy of income and dependent information provided by SBA Dependent ONA applicants.	FEMA	C
			3	We recommend the FEMA Administrator include SBA Dependent ONA as susceptible to significant improper payments subject to annual improper payments estimation and reporting.	FEMA	C
OIG-20-66	<a href="#"><u>DHS Inconsistently Implemented Administrative Forfeiture Authorities Under CAFRA</u></a>	8/27/2020	1	We recommend the Under Secretary of Management develop and implement a Department-wide structure and designate an office to manage and oversee forfeiture activities across DHS, including: - reviewing component policies and procedures to ensure alignment with CAFRA; - developing performance objectives, measures, and plans; and - periodically requesting and reviewing component administrative forfeiture data for alignment with departmental and component goals.	CBP, DHS, ICE, Coast Guard, Secret Service	A
OIG-20-77	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation of DHS' Information Security</u></a>	9/30/2020	2	We recommend the Deputy Under Secretary for Management - Recommendation contains redactions	MGMT	C

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	<a href="#"><u>Program for Fiscal Year 2019</u></a>					
OIG-21-02	<a href="#"><u>CBP Has Taken Steps to Limit Processing of Undocumented Aliens at Ports of Entry</u></a>	10/27/2020	1	We recommend the CBP Acting Commissioner resume processing undocumented aliens at the seven ports of entry currently redirecting them to other ports, or formally redesignate the ports to exclude undocumented aliens.	CBP	B
OIG-21-17	<a href="#"><u>DHS Grants and Contracts Awarded through Other Than Full and Open Competition, FYs 2018 and 2019</u></a>	2/1/2021	1	We recommend the DHS Chief Procurement Officer improve its written procedures to ensure only those contracts awarded through other than full and open competition are included in the required report.	MGMT	C
OIG-21-27	<a href="#"><u>CBP Faced Challenges in Its Inspection Processes and Physical Security at the JFK International Mail Facility - REDACTED</u></a>	3/15/2021	3	We recommend the Acting Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Information Technology, and the Executive Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Field Operations, and Acting Executive Assistant Commissioner for Operations Support conduct an analysis and revise the targeting methodologies as appropriate for JFK IMF to increase the effective rate of the mail targeting process.	CBP	A
OIG-21-30	<a href="#"><u>Violations of Detention Standards Amidst COVID-19 Outbreak at La Palma Correctional Center in Eloy, AZ</u></a>	3/30/2021	1	We recommend the Executive Associate Director of Enforcement and Removal Operations direct the Phoenix Enforcement and Removal Field Office responsible for LPCC to ensure compliance and remedial action is taken to address LPCC's use of force incidents and allegations of detainee mistreatment by staff when warranted.	ICE	B
OIG-21-43	<a href="#"><u>FEMA Has Not Prioritized Compliance</u></a>	7/6/2021	1	We recommend the Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator address	FEMA	B

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	<a href="#"><u>with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Hindering Its Ability to Reduce Repetitive Damages to Roads and Bridges</u></a>			unresolved implementation issues, publish proposed regulations for notice and comment within 1 year, and issue final regulations within 3 years of issuance of this report for implementation of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, 42 U.S.C. § 5172(b)(2).		
OIG-21-53	<a href="#"><u>U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Acquisition Management of Aviation Fleet Needs Improvement to Meet Operational Needs</u></a>	8/9/2021	1	We recommend CBP's Component Acquisition Executive update its acquisition policy to include a formalized process for developing operational requirements, all key requirements from DHS' Acquisition Lifecycle policy, and alignment with DHS guidance.	CBP	A
OIG-21-66	<a href="#"><u>DHS Did Not Fully Comply with Requirements in the Transportation Security Card Program Assessment</u></a>	9/22/2021	1	We recommend the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with TSA and the Coast Guard, re-evaluate the HSOAC assessment, and report on further corrective actions necessary to address the four areas of concern from the assessment findings, as identified in this report, or justify excluding these areas of concern from the corrective action plan.	Coast Guard, TSA	A
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22 reports</b>		<b>33 recs</b>			

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