

**REPORT ON THE QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT REVIEW  
OF THE INVESTIGATIVE OPERATIONS OF THE  
OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR  
AFGHANISTAN RECONSTRUCTION**



**Conducted in Arlington, Virginia  
by  
National Science Foundation Office of Inspector General  
2415 Eisenhower Ave.  
Alexandria, VA 22314**

**Megan E. Wallace, Acting Inspector General  
Matthew Penn, Team Leader**

**June 16, 2025**

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**U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**  
**Office of Inspector General**

June 16, 2025

Acting Inspector General Eugene Aloise  
Office of the Special Inspector General  
For Afghanistan Reconstruction  
1550 Crystal Drive, Suite 900  
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: Report on the Qualitative Assessment Review of the Investigative Operations of  
the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

Dear Acting Inspector General Aloise:

We have reviewed the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative operations of the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) in effect for the period ending May 28, 2025. Our review was conducted in conformity with the Quality Standards for Investigations and the Qualitative Assessment Review Guidelines established by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE).

We reviewed compliance with SIGAR's system of internal policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. The review was conducted at SIGAR's headquarters office in Arlington, Virginia.

During the review process, we learned that SIGAR's investigative case management system (ICMS) was decommissioned in November 2024, in advance of the established sunset timeline of April 2025 through August 2025. According to senior SIGAR officials, case information contained in the ICMS was unavailable for review. As a result, we were unable to fully assess whether SIGAR's closed investigations were conducted in accordance with professional investigative standards and the Investigative Directorate's policies and procedures.

In performing our review, we also gave consideration to the Attorney General's Guidelines for Office of Inspectors General with Statutory Law Enforcement Authority and Section 6(e) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended. Those documents authorize law enforcement powers for eligible personnel of each of the various Offices of Inspectors General. Law enforcement powers may be exercised only for activities authorized by the IG Act, other statutes, or as expressly authorized by the Attorney General.

In our opinion, the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative function of SIGAR in effect for the period ending May 28, 2025, is in compliance with the quality standards established by the CIGIE and the other applicable guidelines and statutes cited above. These safeguards and procedures provide reasonable assurance of conforming with professional standards in the planning, execution, and reporting of SIGAR's investigations, and in the use of law enforcement powers.

Finally, we would like to express our appreciation to the SIGAR staff for their assistance throughout this peer review process.

Sincerely,

Megan E. Wallace  
Acting Inspector General

# Attachment A: Office Location and Personnel

Location and summary of the visited office and personnel interviewed:

Office Location

No. of Personnel Interviewed

SIGAR Headquarters  
Arlington, VA

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**U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**  
**Office of Inspector General**

June 16, 2025

Acting Inspector General Eugene Aloise  
Office of the Special Inspector General  
For Afghanistan Reconstruction  
1550 Crystal Drive, Suite 900  
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: Letter of Observations following the Report on the Qualitative  
Assessment Review of the Investigative Operations of the Office of  
Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction

Dear Acting Inspector General Aloise:

This is a supplement to our Report on the Qualitative Assessment Review of the Investigative Operations of the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR), conducted in May 2025.

In addition to reporting a rating of compliant, the peer review team identified two "Best Practices" or similar notable positive attributes of your investigative operations.

- SIGAR should be commended for successfully utilizing its Special Inspector General's Prosecutor (SIGPRO) program to provide investigators with specific points of contact for legal assistance when needed. SIGPROs are attorneys exclusively dedicated to working SIGAR investigations. SIGPROs reviewed allegations for potential avenues of criminal enforcement, worked with investigators during the pendency of investigations, as well as provided guidance on changes in law or best practices that could affect investigative operations. This is an outstanding program that other Inspectors General should consider replicating.
- We also recognize the valuable contributions SIGAR's Investigations Directorate provides to the organization's Lessons Learned Program (LLP). SIGAR's LLP undertakes special reviews designed to explore trends and themes that SIGAR and the Investigations Directorate identify during their investigations and other oversight activities. The LLP drafts reports containing their findings as well as any recommendations that could address those findings. SIGAR sends these reports to various constituencies, including

Congress, the Department of Defense, and the Department of State, to keep them apprised of emerging issues in their case work.

The review team observed the following deviations between the Investigations Directorate's policies and practices:

- The results of firearms qualifications and use of force training are not reported to the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations quarterly.
- Firearms qualification waivers are being approved by the firearms instructor rather than the Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Investigations or the Special Agent in Charge.
- Combinations securing evidence are not being changed every twelve months. They were last changed in June 2023.
- Evidence is not being inventoried semi-annually. All evidence was last inventoried in June 2023.

We understand SIGAR is currently in the process of sunseting; however, if SIGAR were to remain operational, the peer review team identified the following areas for improvement or increased efficiency or effectiveness.

- We recommend that SIGAR establish ongoing physical and medical requirements for its criminal investigators in accordance with CIGIE's Quality Standards for Investigations to ensure their health and safety as they execute their duties.
- We suggest that SIGAR better track the training received by Investigative Directorate personnel. As recently as 2022, the organization generated spreadsheets that tracked specific types of training received by SIGAR investigators. However, this level of tracking was discontinued when personnel responsible for its compilation left the organization.

We hope you find the review team's suggestions helpful. We note that implementation of the suggestions is at your discretion and will not be tracked or monitored by the review team.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or your staff may contact Acting Special Agent in Charge Matt Penn at (703) 292-8612.

Sincerely,

Megan E. Wallace  
Acting Inspector General