OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL CITY OF NEW ORLEANS



For Immediate Release: September 19, 2013

For Further Information: Laura Paul (504) 344-4884

Improvements at Traffic Court

The New Orleans Office of Inspector General today released a report titled "Follow-up Report: Assessment of New Orleans' System of City Courts and Performance Review of Traffic Court."

The review examined whether the City and Traffic Court followed up on recommendations in the OIG's 2011 court report and whether the underlying findings still existed in 2012.

Overall, the Traffic Court made progress in implementing the recommendations in the original report. It made progress in adopting policies and procedures, in managing its employees and contractors, and planned to add accounting functions to its case management system. The Court also adopted a purchasing policy but did not consistently follow it in 2012.

The City did not accept many of the recommendations in the original report and had not acted on those recommendations it did accept. The City had not changed its level of oversight regarding Court accounting and procurement, and the underlying conditions presented in the OIG's 2011 report related to recommendations that were not accepted still exist.

"We are pleased with the changes made at Traffic Court, but the City should exercise greater controls over the city courts and lobby for a more efficient court system," stated Inspector General Ed Quatrevaux.

This report and others issued by the Office of Inspector General can be viewed and downloaded from the website at <u>http://www.nolaoig.org</u>.

For comment, additional information or to schedule an interview, call Laura Paul, (504) 344-4884.