

# **MONTHLY REPORT**

**MAY 2026**



# **OIG**

**NEW ORLEANS  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

**EDWARD MICHEL, CIG  
INSPECTOR GENERAL**

# ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

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## ADMINISTRATION

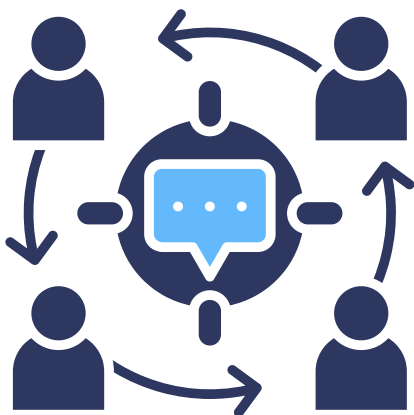
The Office Manager is responsible for the following:

- Human Resources
- Finance
- Procurement Process
- Operations

## INFORMATION SECURITY

The OIG Information Security Specialist is responsible for maintaining the OIG's information technology (IT) integrity through:

- Technical Support
- Hardware and Software Updates
- Communication and Coordination
- Consultation for IT Purchases
- Digital Forensics
- Evaluation of Emerging Technology



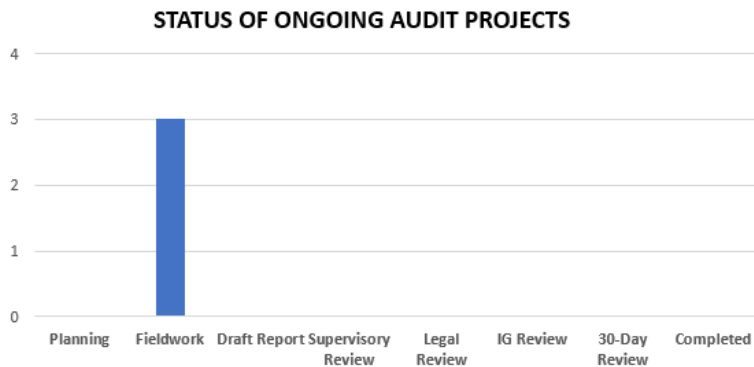
## COMMUNICATIONS

The Public Information Officer is responsible for the following:

- Public and Media Relations
- Social Media
- Monthly and Annual Reports to the ERB
- Editing | Writing | Reviewing

# AUDIT & REVIEW DIVISION

The **Audit and Review Division** conducts financial audits, attestations, compliance, and performance audits of City programs and operations. Auditors test for appropriate internal controls and compliance with laws, regulations, and other requirements.



The Audit and Review Division has the following projects in process:

- New Orleans Recreation Department Maintenance Audit
- Non-profit Property Tax Exemptions
- New Orleans Sewerage & Water Board Lead Follow-up

## **Project Phase Descriptions:**

**Planning** - includes background research, data gathering, initial interviews, and/or internal controls assessment.

**Fieldwork** - includes data and statistical analyses, interviews, testing of procedures, onsite observations, and/or physical inspections.

**Draft Report** - includes data and statistical reviews, documenting fieldwork results, initial report writing, revisions, and internal Quality Assurance Review (QAR) prior to supervisory review.

**Supervisory Review** - includes the review by both Deputy Inspector General and First Assistant Inspector General to ensure sufficiency and appropriateness of evidence, adequate fieldwork procedures, and proper conclusions, content, presentation, and readability.

**Legal Review** - Report review by in-house General Counsel and/or outside Legal Counsel to ensure appropriate and proper legal citations and/or interpretations.

**IG Review** - Report review by the Inspector General based on corrections and recommended changes resulting from the Legal Review.

**30-Day Comment Period** - 30-day deadline for the department to review the draft report and submit management responses for inclusion in the final report.

# MEASURING PROGRESS

## AUDIT AND REVIEW DIVISION

The following information provides a summary of the Audit Division's project phase and a summary of the audit objectives.

Project Name	Project Phase <sup>1</sup>	Anticipated <sup>2</sup> Completion Date
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New Orleans Recreation Department Maintenance Audit	Fieldwork	Ongoing
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**Summary of Objectives:** The objective of the audit is to determine whether NORD maintained their facilities in accordance with policy and best practices.

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Non-profit Property Tax Exemptions	Fieldwork	Ongoing
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**Summary of Objectives:** The objective of the audit is to determine if the City is adequately verifying the eligibility of non-profits exempt from paying property taxes, as well as to determine if organizations are improperly included as exempt.

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New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board Lead Follow-up	Fieldwork	Ongoing
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**Summary of Objectives:** To determine whether the City implemented the changes recommended in the OIG's 2017 report Lead Exposure and Infrastructure Reconstruction, and to update the recommendations based on new legal requirements, as needed.

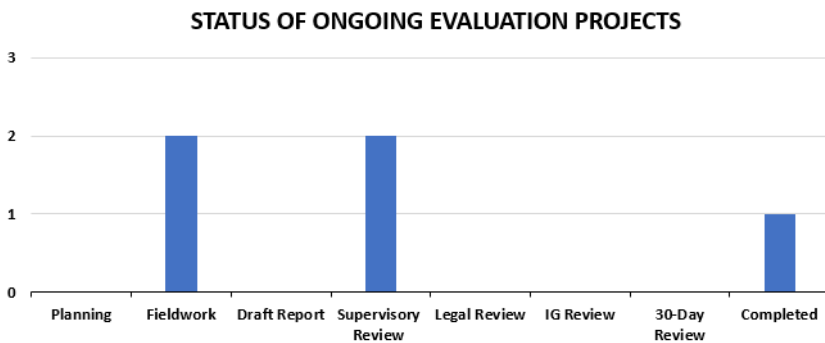
**Footnotes:**

**1** - Project phase determination is based on the objective(s), scope, and methodology for each project. It is not determined by a standard set of hours and/or phase deadline.

**2** - The completion date may be re-evaluated if necessary.

# INSPECTIONS & EVALUATIONS DIVISION

The Inspections and Evaluations Division works to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of City programs, agencies, and operations. Evaluators conduct independent, objective, empirically based and methodically sound inspections, evaluations, and performance reviews.



The following projects are recently released or in process:

- NORD Youth Athletics Background Checks
- NORD Booster Clubs and Athletic Teams Resources
- Equipment Maintenance Division Fleet Management
- Illegal Dumping Policies and Enforcement
- SWBNO Employee Overtime

## **Project Phase Descriptions:**

**Planning** - includes background research, data gathering, initial interviews, and/or internal controls assessment.

**Fieldwork** - includes data and statistical analyses, interviews, testing of procedures, onsite observations, and/or physical inspections.

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# MEASURING PROGRESS

## INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS DIVISION

The following information provides a summary of the Inspections and Evaluations Division's project phase and a summary of each project's objectives.

Project Name	Project Phase <sub>1</sub>	Anticipated Completion Date <sub>2</sub>
NORD Youth Athletics Background Checks	Completed	Released June 4, 2026
<b>Summary of Objectives:</b> To determine whether NORDC has adequate policies and procedures for collecting, processing, evaluating, and recording background information about coaches and/or volunteers involved with the youth athletics division.		
NORD Booster Clubs and Athletic Teams Resources	Supervisory Review	Ongoing
<b>Summary of Objectives:</b> To determine whether NORD has sufficient controls in place to ensure that teams comply with NORD policies and with the law as well as to assess whether NORD's youth athletics registration fee policies and procedures result in equitable and consistent opportunities for the City's youth.		
Equipment Maintenance Division Fleet Management	Supervisory Review	Ongoing
<b>Summary of Objectives:</b> To determine if the EMD has policies and procedures to adequately maintain, inventory, and surplus City equipment in an efficient and effective manner.		
Illegal Dumping Policies and Enforcement	Fieldwork	Ongoing
<b>Summary of Objectives:</b> To determine whether the Department of Sanitation and other pertinent agencies have policies, procedures and internal controls to respond to illegal dumping complaints and reduce the occurrence of future illegal dumping events.		
SWBNO Employee Overtime	Fieldwork	Ongoing
<b>Summary of Objectives:</b> To identify trends in overtime usage; review polices, procedures, and internal controls to determine whether resources are used effectively; and determine whether the SWBNO's budget is sufficient to account for anticipated personnel needs.		

**Footnotes:**

1 - Project phase determination is based on the objective(s), scope, and methodology for each project. It is not determined by a standard set of hours and/or phase deadline.

2 - The completion date may be re-evaluated if necessary.

# INVESTIGATION DIVISION

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## **ONGOING PROSECUTIONS:**

The Investigation Division continues to assist in the criminal prosecutions of former Mayor LaToya Cantrell and Jeffrey Vappie.

The Division also continues investigating allegations of overtime abuse and fraud within the New Orleans Police Department. Any substantiated allegations of fraud found during ongoing and future investigations will be turned over to state and/or federal prosecutors for further action. If an allegation of abuse of the overtime system is substantiated, yet not prosecutable, it will be sent back to NOPD for further review by their Professional Integrity Bureau, along with a possible public report from this office.

In addition, the OIG continues to assist in the criminal prosecution of contractor Jon Andersen. He was arrested April 9 following an OIG investigation into allegations that he forged a construction contract in the city's permit system and created a fake email address to make it appear as though the documents were sent by an inspector. Andersen was charged with a total of 14 counts (Forgery, Filing False Public Records, and Online Impersonation). Andersen's case was set for a status hearing on June 8, 2026.

## **BY THE NUMBERS**

The Investigation Division initiated 11 complaints, 2 search warrants, and 17 requests for information during May 2026.

# 2026 BUDGET

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Total 2026 Appropriation \$ 4,398,625

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Spent YTD</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>\$ 1,406,288</b>
<b>Operating</b>	<b>\$ 35,757</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,441,985</b>
<b>Remaining Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,956,640</b>

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# SOCIAL MEDIA




Facebook and Instagram: [@NewOrleansOIG](#)

X: [@NOLAOIG](#)

LinkedIn: [@OfficeofInspectorGeneralCityofNewOrleans](#)

YouTube: [@NOLAOIG1737](#)

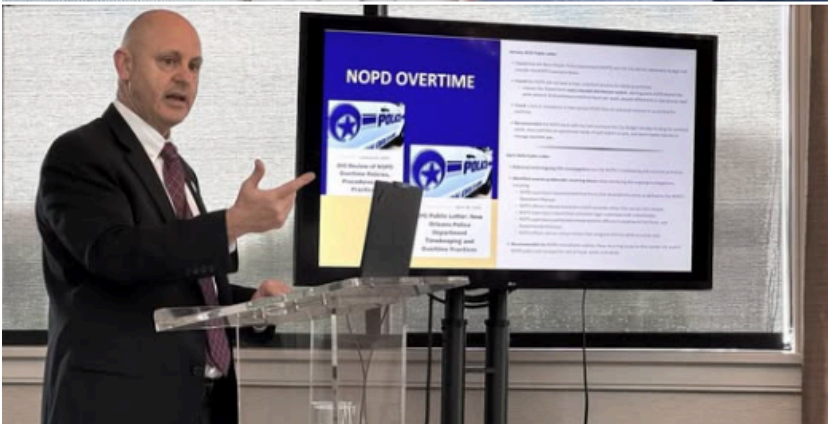
 New Orleans Office of Inspector General  
May 12 at 2:16 PM · 🌐

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Greater New Orleans Executives Association for hosting Inspector General Ed Michel.

During today's meeting, he shared key highlights from our Annual Report and provided an overview of our public letter addressing the New Orleans Police Department's Timekeeping and Overtime Practices.

The engagement from GNOEA members was commendable, with thoughtful questions that sparked meaningful discussions. Together, we can work towards a more transparent and accountable City government.

[#NolaOIG](#) [#CommunityEngagement](#) See less



## The OIG Uses Social Media to Highlight Our:

- Community outreach and educational events
- New reports and letters
- Employment opportunities
- Recent and historical reports
- Partnerships and collaborations
- Fraud hotline
- Employee milestones
- Media presence
- Fraud-prevention tips and other resources

 NEW ORLEANS OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Edward Michel, CIG  
Inspector General

April 29, 2020

Superintendent Anne Kispatrik  
New Orleans Police Department  
1525 Poydras St., Suite 1800  
New Orleans, LA 70112

RE: New Orleans Police Department timekeeping and overtime practices

Dear Superintendent Kispatrik,

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) is authorized to comment on rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and transactions for the purpose of preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse, and to promote efficiency and effectiveness in City of New Orleans (CNO) programs and operations.<sup>1</sup> In January 2018, the OIG released a public letter after it was determined unbudgeted New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) overtime spending was a factor that contributed to the ongoing budget deficit impacting the City.<sup>2</sup> The OIG's public letter concluded that the NOPD and the City failed to properly budget for or oversee the department's overtime spending.<sup>3</sup> The absence of adequate oversight increased the risk of payroll fraud as well as other types of fraud, waste, and abuse. Through its ongoing investigations into NOPD's timekeeping and overtime practices, the OIG has observed several recurring and troubling patterns, including:

- NOPD supervisors approved overtime hours that exceeded the limits of NOPD's Operations Manual;
- NOPD officers entered overtime in block amounts rather than actual hours worked;
- NOPD supervisors shared their login credentials for access to time approval;
- NOPD supervisors authorized remote work for NOPD officers in violation of City Policy and Departmental Directive.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>City Charter Sec. 9-4(2)(2); City Code Sec. 2-122(2) and (2)(B).

<sup>2</sup>Carla, Michel, 2018, "New Orleans' \$40-Million Budget Deficit Went Unchecked — despite Early Warning Signs," *NOLA.com*, October 27, 2018. <https://www.nola.com/news/politics/article.php?id=NOLA-2018-10-27-0001>

<sup>3</sup>Michel, Edward, 2018, "New Orleans' \$40-Million Budget Deficit Went Unchecked — despite Early Warning Signs," *NOLA.com*, October 27, 2018. <https://www.nola.com/news/politics/article.php?id=NOLA-2018-10-27-0001>

<sup>4</sup>Michel, Edward, 2018, "New Orleans' \$40-Million Budget Deficit Went Unchecked — despite Early Warning Signs," *NOLA.com*, October 27, 2018. <https://www.nola.com/news/politics/article.php?id=NOLA-2018-10-27-0001>

<sup>5</sup>The purpose of this public letter, "remote work" refers to NOPD officers performing job duties from a location outside of an NOPD facility and outside of their assigned patrol area. "Block hours" refers to a specific block of overtime work in which duties are performed from an officer's residence. The terms are used interchangeably throughout this letter.

<sup>6</sup>125 N. Charles Avenue, Post Office Box 17010 • Phone: (504) 588-1200 • Fax: (504) 588-1201 • [www.nola.gov](http://www.nola.gov)

For the full public letter, visit [NolaOIG.gov](#)

# SOCIAL MEDIA



**Office of Inspector General City of New Orleans**

356 followers  
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A big thank you to The Willow High School for welcoming the OIG staff to attend capstone presentations by the senior Biomedical students! We are inspired by the innovation, energy, and dedication these students showcased in their environmental health action plans.

Special thanks to the students who reached out to us for insights into our work related to environmental health as part of their team project.

Our mission to combat fraud, waste, and abuse in City government encompasses many aspects of life in New Orleans, including environmental issues. We were excited to share our recent water projects and ongoing evaluation of government agencies' policies and procedures for addressing complaints of illegal dumping in New Orleans East.

In return, we had the opportunity to attend the students' presentations on tackling drinking-water contamination, heat islands, and other pressing environmental hazards. Plus, we were delighted to receive a wonderful thank-you card!

Congratulations to the entire class for presenting fresh ideas and impactful research!

[#EnvironmentalHealth](#) [#FutureLeaders](#) [#NolaOIG](#) [#CommunityOutreach](#)



**New Orleans OIG** @NOLAOIG · May 22

The OIG is pleased to see the City taking steps to strengthen traffic signal infrastructure! Our October 2024 report highlighted key issues, including staffing shortages and data gaps, affecting the City's traffic signal system. (1/2)

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**New Orleans OIG** @NOLAOIG · May 22

We recommended boosting staff and implementing better asset management for safer streets.

Read more here: [nolaog.gov/media/traffic-...](https://nolaog.gov/media/traffic-...)

[#NolaOIG](#) [#TrafficSafety](#) [#NewOrleans](#)

“Operational traffic signals are essential to maintaining public safety, as malfunctioning signals can lead to dangerous and congested traffic conditions while also impeding commerce.”



– Inspector General Ed Michel,  
OIG Traffic Signals Maintenance Report,  
released October 2024



**New Orleans OIG** @NOLAOIG · May 22

**Audit Alert: FEMA-Funded JIRR Projects**

In September 2022, an OIG audit revealed critical issues in the execution of JIRR projects. (1/3)

[nolaog.gov/media/cno-and-...](https://nolaog.gov/media/cno-and-...)

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We found lack of coordination led to substantial change orders during construction and delays in project completion. For the 54 expenses tested during the audit, the S&WB took an average of 241 days to submit reimbursement requests, far exceeding the 14-day requirement! (2/3)

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**New Orleans OIG** @NOLAOIG · May 22

At the time of the report's release, Inspector General Ed Michel said the City risked losing hundreds of millions in FEMA funding. Stay tuned for updates on our mission to promote government accountability! [#NolaOIG](#)

[#JIRR](#)