

MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2026



OIG

**NEW ORLEANS
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

**EDWARD MICHEL, CIG
INSPECTOR GENERAL**

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION



ADMINISTRATION

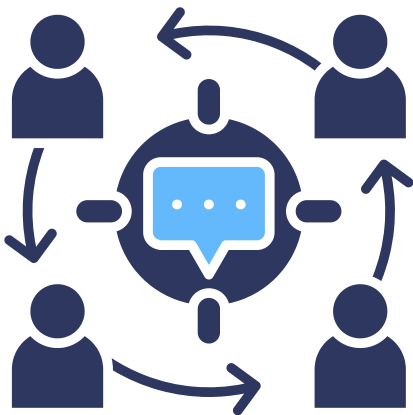
The Office Manager is responsible for the following:

- 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



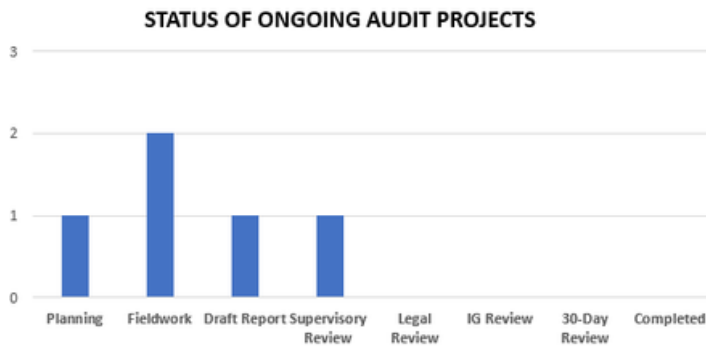
COMMUNICATIONS

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
- New Orleans 311 Performance Audit
- Recycling Services

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 ¹	Anticipated ² Completion Date
New Orleans Recreation Department Maintenance Audit	Draft Report	Ongoing
Summary of Objectives: The objective of the audit is to determine whether NORD maintained their facilities in accordance with policy and best practices.		
Non-profit Property Tax Exemptions	Fieldwork	Ongoing
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.		
New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board Lead Follow-up	Supervisory Review	Ongoing
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.		
New Orleans 311 Performance Audit	Planning	Ongoing
Summary of Objectives: To evaluate whether New Orleans 311 effectively receives, routes, communicates, and tracks service requests. Additionally, it will assess whether communication between 311 and city departments supports timely, accurate, and complete service delivery for residents.		
Recycling Services	Fieldwork	Ongoing
Summary of Objectives: To assess whether the City's recycling contracts are structured to protect the City's interests and to evaluate whether recycling contractors are fulfilling their contractual advertising and public-education obligations.		

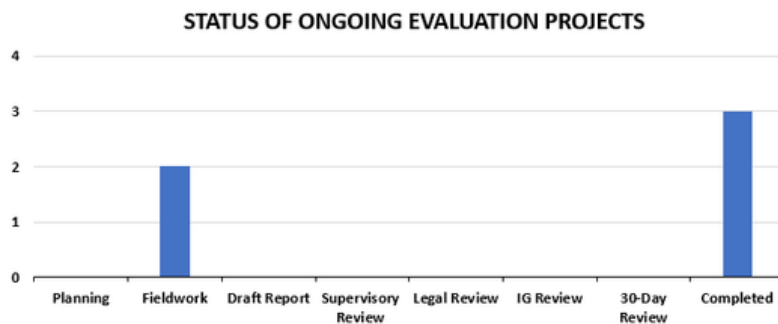
Footnotes:

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 has the following projects in process:

- NORD Booster Clubs and Athletic Teams Resources
- Sanitation Cost-Benefit Analysis
- 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.

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.

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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

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 ₁	Anticipated Completion Date ₂
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NORD Booster Clubs and Athletic Teams Resources	Completed	Released Sept. 22, 2026
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Summary of Objectives: 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.

Illegal Dumping Cost Analysis	Completed	Released Oct. 8, 2026
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Summary of Objectives: To determine the cost-effectiveness of bringing illegal dumping response efforts in-house, using Sanitation workers rather than continuing to use outside vendors.

Equipment Maintenance Division Fleet Management	Completed	Scheduled for release on Oct. 15, 2026
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Summary of Objectives: 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
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Summary of Objectives: 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
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Summary of Objectives: To identify trends in overtime usage; review policies, 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

ONGOING PROSECUTIONS:

The Investigation Division continues to assist in the criminal prosecution of NOPD Senior Police Officer Brandon Coleman.

Coleman was arrested Aug. 7, 2026, on charges of Filing False Public Records (325 counts), Public Payroll Fraud (23 counts), Malfeasance in Office (1 count), and Theft (1 count). The arrest followed a joint investigation with the Louisiana State Police that determined Coleman had received more than \$111,000 in fraudulent overtime payments and submitted false public records to support those claims.

As of early October, Coleman remained under emergency suspension awaiting termination. He is scheduled for court hearings on Nov. 5, 2026, and Jan. 4, 2027, in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court.

Coleman's case is among multiple OIG investigations into potential payroll fraud and timekeeping violations. Any substantiated allegations of fraud identified during ongoing and future investigations will also be referred to state and/or federal prosecutors for further action.

OIG investigators continue to assist in the criminal prosecution of former local contractor Randy Farrell, whose federal trial is scheduled for Oct. 19, 2026. Farrell and his company, IECL & Associates, are charged in a twenty-five count indictment with conspiracy, wire fraud, and honest services fraud.

In addition, the OIG continues to assist in the criminal prosecution of local contractor Jon Andersen, whose trial is now set for Oct. 26, 2026, in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court. Andersen faces eight felony counts, including forgery, filing false public records, and online impersonation.

BY THE NUMBERS

The Investigation Division received and vetted 39 complaints and made two requests for information,

2026 BUDGET

Total 2026 Appropriation \$ 4,398,625

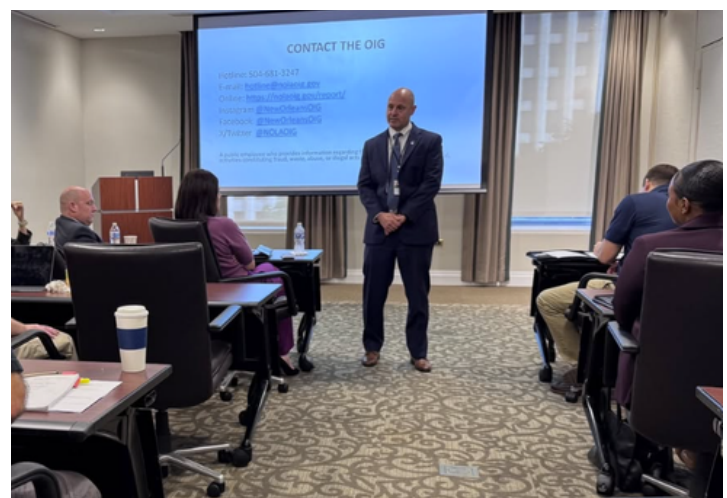
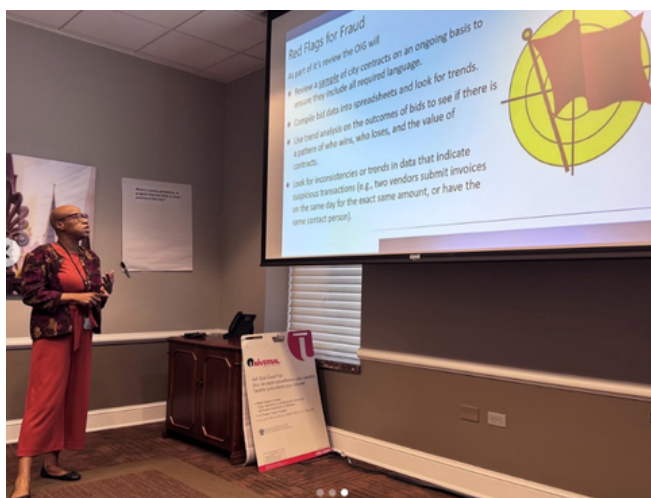
Expenditures	Spent YTD
Personnel	\$ 2,575,918
Operating	\$ 220,262
Total	\$ 2,796,180
Remaining Balance	\$ 1,602,445

CITIZENS ACADEMY 2026



This Fall's Citizens Academy was one of our best due to the energy and input of this year's cohort, which included a graduating class of 13 City leaders.

The OIG Citizens Academy provides participants with a closer look at the mission, role, and work of the Office of Inspector General. During the three-week program, attendees hear directly from OIG staff on how we prioritize and conduct our work. Importantly, the academy includes discussions in which we listen to and learn from those in attendance, strengthening our shared understanding of how oversight supports a better City.

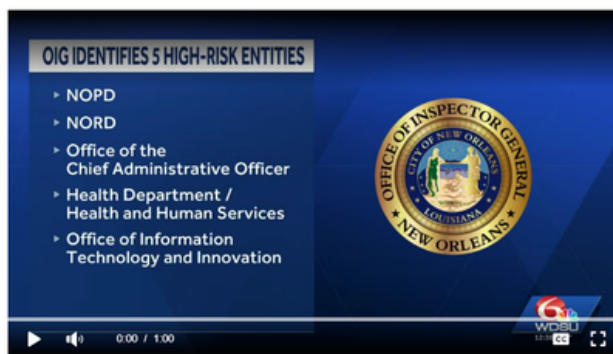


OIG IN THE NEWS

**OIG mentions in the media
in September 2026: 57**

Stay tuned for more!

New Orleans Office of Inspector General identifies five riskiest entities



WDSU 6

Updated: 1:14 PM CDT Sep 1, 2026 Editorial Standards ⓘ

New Orleans OIG report finds weak oversight of NORD booster clubs

By JONI HESS | Staff writer Sep 22, 2026 2 min to read



NORD's Sampson Playground sign in New Orleans, Friday, Aug. 14, 2026. (Staff photo by SOPHIA GARNER)

New Orleans inspector general finds widespread oversight failures in NORDC youth sports

The report says NORDC failed to properly oversee team money, registration fees, coach background checks and security at games.



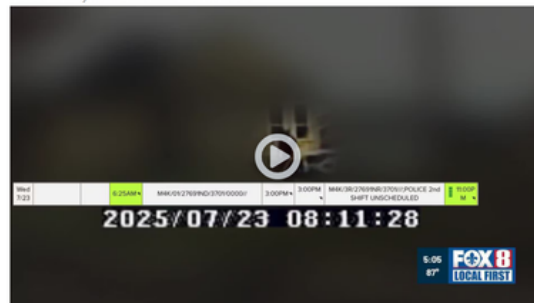
Author: Stephen Melancon
Published: 10:46 AM CDT September 22, 2026
Updated: 10:59 PM CDT September 22, 2026



The New Orleans Recreation Development Commission failed to adequately oversee money collected for youth sports, inconsistently enforced background checks for volunteer coaches and left most playgrounds without formal rules governing team finances, according to a new report from the city's Office of the Inspector General.

NOPD officer allegedly collected \$111K for overtime he didn't work, arrest records reveal

Investigators say Brandon Coleman claimed 2,138 hours reviewing red-light camera tickets, but system records indicate he likely worked little more than 110 hours.



By Rob Krieger and Gray Louisiana
Published: Sep. 10, 2026 at 12:03 PM CDT

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NEW ORLEANS (WVUE) - Newly obtained arrest documents detail how investigators say a New Orleans police officer collected more than \$111,000 in overtime pay for hours he did not work, including more than 2,000 hours he claimed while reviewing red-light camera tickets.

Senior Police Officer Brandon Coleman faces 350 criminal charges following FOX 8's Unchecked Overtime investigation.

According to the arrest affidavit obtained by FOX 8, Coleman logged 2,138 hours of overtime reviewing red-light camera tickets. But when investigators examined timestamps from the system officers use to review the tickets, they concluded Coleman likely performed a little more than 110 hours of that work.

SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook and Instagram: @NewOrleansOIG

X: @NOLAOIG

LinkedIn: @OfficeofInspectorGeneralCityofNewOrleans

YouTube: @NOLAOIG1737

New Orleans Office of Inspector General
September 22 at 6:12 PM · 45

The New Orleans Office of Inspector General has released an evaluation of NORDC's management of youth activities.

The review found several areas where oversight must improve, including tracking booster clubs, managing team fees, enforcing safety and conduct rules, and ensuring consistent registration fees. With the City investing \$19.4 million in NORD last year, it's essential that youth sports programs are safe, equitable, and accountable.

The OIG recommends stronger booster club oversight, clear policies for all parks (both with and without booster clubs), standardized fee collection, and enhanced background checks and security. Improving these areas will help ensure every child in New Orleans has access to high-quality recreational opportunities.

For more information, read the full report at nolaOIG.gov and see our videos below! See less



New Orleans Office of Inspector General
September 1 · 45

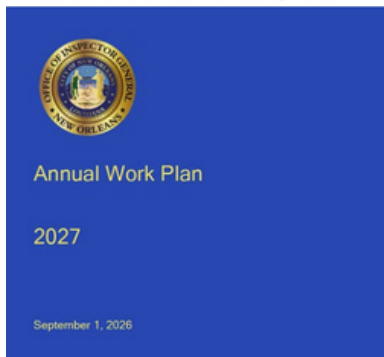
The New Orleans Office of Inspector General has released our 2027 Annual Work Plan, outlining the agency's priorities from September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2027.

Each year, our staff conducts a City-wide Risk Assessment to identify which departments, boards, and commissions face the greatest risks for fraud, waste, and abuse. These findings guide how we allocate resources, select projects, and set our audit and evaluation priorities for the year ahead.

The Annual Work Plan provides City leaders and the public with an overview of our ongoing work and upcoming projects. While the plan establishes our strategic direction, it also remains flexible so we can respond to new information, current events, and emerging issues.

Inspector General Ed Michel said, "The Annual Work Plan serves as a strategic framework for our office, informed by months of comprehensive risk assessment conducted by our staff. For the public, the plan provides an important overview of our ongoing and planned projects, all designed to improve the efficiency of City services, especially as the City faces budgetary constraints.

The Work Plan contributes to the performance of the OIG, which continues to be a great investment for the City. In the past two years, the OIG has identified more than \$31 million in potential savings and/or economic loss prevented, and worked with our law enforcement partners to hold accountable officials who used their public offices for personal gain." See less



New Orleans OIG @NOLAOIG · Sep 22

Our 4th annual OIG Citizens Academy continued today with a presentation from our Inspections & Evaluations Division, then discussion. The Academy offers an inside look at how we work to identify and reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in City government.

#NolaOIG #CitizensAcademy



New Orleans Office of Inspector General
September 30 at 3:26 PM · 45

Congratulations to the thirteen City leaders who graduated this week from the OIG Citizens Academy! We appreciate the energy, commitment, and input contributed by our Fall 2026 cohort.

The OIG Citizens Academy provides participants with a closer look at the mission, role, and work of the Office of Inspector General.

During the three-week program, attendees hear directly from OIG staff about how our office sets priorities and conducts audits, evaluations, and investigations to help ensure City services are delivered efficiently and effectively.

Equally important, the academy includes discussion sessions where we listen and learn from those in attendance, strengthening our shared understanding of how oversight supports a better City.

Thank you to our graduates for joining us in learning, engaging, and working toward a more effective and accountable City government. See less



neworleansoig Kicking off our fourth annual OIG Citizens Academy!

This three-week educational program is designed to strengthen understanding of the OIG's mission by offering an in-depth look at how we assess and mitigate fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption in City government and by City contractors.

We look forward to hosting this year's cohort as they engage with our work and gain valuable insights into oversight and accountability.

Edited: 3x