



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC 20415

Office of the
Inspector General

February 2, 2016

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Lankford
Chairman
Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs
and Federal Management
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
601 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs
and Federal Management
Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
605 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member Carper, Chairman Lankford, and Ranking Member Heitkamp:

I am writing to inform you that I am retiring after 25 years as the Inspector General for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM). My resignation letter to the President is enclosed.

I wish to thank you and your staff for your constant support over the years. Every time we raised an issue, you not only listened, but took action. For that, you have my deepest gratitude.

I am comforted in knowing that you will continue to support the OPM Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the work we do. These highly disciplined men and women work tirelessly to protect the health and wellbeing of Federal employees and annuitants, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of OPM operations, protect our nation's security, and safeguard the billions of taxpayer dollars entrusted to the agency.

As I prepare to leave, I am deeply concerned that OPM may suffer the same fate as many other agencies: that the position of Inspector General will remain vacant for months, or possibly even years. I know that you are all too familiar with this problem. In order for

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any OIG to achieve its full potential as an oversight organization, it must have a permanent, confirmed leader at the helm.

My last official recommendation as the OPM Inspector General is that you work with the Administration so that a candidate is quickly nominated and promptly confirmed. OPM's activities directly affect the lives of the Federal workforce and have a critical impact upon national security. The agency cannot be allowed to move forward without strong and independent oversight.

Again, I thank you for your years of support and your continued collaboration with the OPM OIG in the battle against fraud, waste, and abuse in and against OPM programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick E. McFarland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "P".

Patrick E. McFarland
Inspector General