



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
JEFFERSON PARISH

DAVID N. McCLINTOCK
INSPECTOR GENERAL



June 11, 2021

TO: Mr. John E. Benz, Chairman,
Mr. Duke McConnell, Board Member
Mr. Jim Letten, Board Member

RE: The Second Annual Quality Assurance Review of the Jefferson Parish
Office of Inspector General

I am in receipt of the Quality Assurance Review Committee's (QARC) 2020 annual review of the Jefferson Parish Office of Inspector General (JPOIG). I wish to thank each member of the QARC for their continued service and the considerable commitment of their valuable time.

The JPOIG staff looks forward to this annual opportunity for independent and knowledgeable feedback. It is only through these open communications and listening that we can further refine and enhance our services.

I am in complete agreement with the reports assessment of the JPOIG and the recommendations made to both the Parish and the JPOIG.

In this year's report, the QARC covered numerous elements related to our public reporting, including: public deliverables, the Parish's engagement on JPOIG recommendations, JPOIG funding levels, and the status of last year's QARC recommendations.

The QARC addressed the issue of funding adequacy in detail, through both direct questions and considerable discussion. The QARC's assessment of funding levels as they relate to compliance with Parish Charter mandates, capacity to timely produce quality audits and investigations, and to maintain quality professional staff is spot on. This is an area in which the JPOIG has regularly reported on over many years and understands the solutions will require collaboration with Parish leadership. I am in agreement with the resulting "Committee Recommendation #1" directed to the Parish Council and Administration.


"Committee Recommendation #2" calls for Parish leadership to require written responses to JPOIG findings/recommendations through legislation. A similar provision appears in the Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances 2-165(b) for Internal Audit; however, none exists relevant to the JPOIG.

"Committee Recommendation #3" suggests adding the numerical closing year to the existing case number. Thus, a case originally numbered 2015-0029, could be referred to upon closure as

2015-0029/21 if the case was closed in 2021. We understand the added clarity and will implement the changes in public reporting moving forward.

In closing, I wish commend the QARC for their continued commitment to understand the underlying issues that impact our ability to produce meaningful work, and thus be efficient. This year's QARC report has directly identified aspects of parish engagement and funding that impact services and outcomes. We are fortunate that the Parish Council, Parish Administration and the Jefferson Parish Ethics and Compliance Commission have collectively appointed a committee with deep knowledge and experience in government, finances, and the complexity of independent oversight.

Sincerely,


David McClintock
Inspector General