

## OFFICE OF THE STATE INSPECTOR GENERAL

### *Operation and Performance of the Office of the State Inspector General, 2019*

**Investigating serious administrative violations ►** The General Assembly may wish to consider amending § 2.2-309.B of the Code of Virginia to require that the Office of the State Inspector General directly investigate the state's most serious allegations of administrative violations and only refer allegations for investigation to other agencies that (i) are below a dollar threshold (to be developed by the inspector general); (ii) would not reflect poorly on agency leadership if proven true; and (iii) appear relatively straightforward to investigate. (Recommendation 4)

**Investigations at agencies without internal audit divisions ►** The General Assembly may wish to consider including language in the Appropriation Act directing the Office of the State Inspector General to discontinue its practice of referring allegations for investigation to agencies without internal audit divisions and directly investigate these allegations. (Recommendation 5)

**Investigating waste, fraud, and abuse in higher education ►** The General Assembly may wish to consider repealing § 2.2-309.B of the Code of Virginia so that OSIG will have full discretion to investigate all serious allegations of waste, fraud, or abuse at public institutions of higher education. (Recommendation 7)

**Oversight of behavioral health ►** The General Assembly may wish to consider amending § 2.2-309.1 of the Code of Virginia to more clearly establish that the primary goal of the Office of the State Inspector General's oversight of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and community-based providers is to identify system-level issues that affect quality of care and safety across facilities or providers and recommend solutions to address them. (Recommendation 10)

**Oversight of behavioral health ►** The General Assembly may wish to consider including language in the Appropriation Act to direct the Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) to develop and implement a plan to conduct system-level oversight of the quality of care and safety across Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services facilities and community-based providers. The plan should set forth the primary oversight activities that OSIG plans to undertake, as well as the number of additional staff positions and types of expertise necessary to carry out these activities. OSIG should submit the plan to the House Appropriations and Health, Welfare and Institutions Committees, and the Senate Finance and Education and Health Committees no later than June 30, 2020. (Recommendation 11)

**Improving performance audits ►** The General Assembly may wish to consider including language in the Appropriation Act directing the Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) to conduct only two performance audits annually in FY21–24. Each year one audit topic should be chosen by the chief of staff in consultation with the governor’s cabinet and one audit topic should be chosen by OSIG. (Recommendation 12)