

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL PALM BEACH COUNTY



## UPDATE FROM YOUR INSPECTOR GENERAL JANUARY 2015

Greetings from your Palm Beach County Inspector General and Happy New Year!

This update is to provide some information on our plans for 2015 as your advocate to promote efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity in government.

Before discussing our 2015 plans, here is a little on my first six months as your IG. Our office has a big task in overseeing the activities of the County Government, the 38 municipalities, the Solid Waste Authority, and the Children's Services Council. In looking at the work we have done and meeting with numerous government officials, I have found a lot of dedicated public servants doing their best to be good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars. We are contributing to this effort by continuing to identify many ways to improve operations and save money. We also have an important role to play in promoting integrity in government. In that regard, we have been hard at work rooting out fraud, waste, and abuse. Where potential criminal activity has been discovered, we referred these matters to the State Attorney's Office and in some cases assisted in their investigations.

Looking ahead, I plan on continuing the county-wide risk assessment we began in 2014 to better focus our audit, investigative, and proactive contract oversight activities. You can view our 2015 Audit Plan enclosed in our 2014 Annual Report available on the IG website (http://www.pbcgov.com/OIG).

To enhance our proactive initiatives in promoting best practices and preventing fraud, waste, and abuse, we will increase our communications/awareness efforts. To supplement our six month updates to the IG Committee (open to the public and on County Channel 20), I will hold public forums to update citizens on our activities and discuss any issues of concern. In addition to my periodic "Updates," my office will issue quarterly "Tips and Trends" to highlight lessons learned from our projects, things to avoid, and best practices to consider. I will publish a quarterly Newsletter to summarize our activities and present special topics of interest. We will continue to conduct presentations to those in and out of government on our projects, trends, lessons learned, and recommendations for better government. If you would like me to speak to your organization, please contact us at inspector@pbcgov.org.

Good government is everyone's business. If you have ideas to make our government better, please share them with us. If you know of or suspect wrongdoing in government, please report this to my office. I look forward to continuing to serve as your IG in 2015.

Sincerely,

John A. Carey Inspector General Palm Beach County

Enhancing Public Trust in Government"