



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

WASHINGTON, DC 20201



January 23, 2020

The Honorable Mick Mulvaney  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
725 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Mulvaney:

The Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 requires Inspectors General to report on the implementation of recommendations made to their agencies to address audit findings for travel and purchase cards. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance requires Inspectors General to submit their reports to OMB by January 31 of each year.

As the Act requires, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) continues to conduct periodic assessments of the travel and purchase card programs at HHS. These assessments are completed to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments.

HHS OIG issued no reports during fiscal year 2019. We have an ongoing assessment of travel and purchase programs at a specific Operating Division, and we expect to issue reports on that Operating Division in spring 2020. The status of three open recommendations is summarized in the attached table.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Carla Lewis, Director, Grants and Internal Activities, Office of Audit Services, at (202) 205-9125 or through email at [Carla.Lewis@oig.hhs.gov](mailto:Carla.Lewis@oig.hhs.gov). Please refer to report number A-04-19-06232 in all correspondence.

Sincerely,

/Amy J. Frontz/  
Deputy Inspector General  
for Audit Services

Enclosure

cc:

Joseph Pika  
Director and Audit Liaison, Division of Payment Integrity Improvement  
OS/ASFR/Office of Finance

Manny Van Pelt  
Program Manager, Transportation Services  
Program Support Center

## Agency Progress in Implementing Audit Recommendations

### Open Recommendations as of January 31, 2020

Agency	Card Type	Summary of Recommendations	Status/ Disposition	Fiscal Year	OIG Report Number and Date
Indian Health Service	Travel	<p>Reemphasize the requirements for use of the travel card to ensure that all travel cardholders are aware of the requirements.</p> <p>Ensure that travel card usage is adequately monitored for compliance with travel card requirements.</p>	Open Unimplemented 9/23/2019	2016	A-07-16-05091  4/12/2018
Indian Health Service	Purchase	<p>Ensure that purchase cardholders comply with Federal requirements and IHS's policy by adequately monitoring purchase card usage.</p> <p>Ensuring that all IHS purchase cardholders complete HHS-required training on the use of the purchase card.</p>	Open Unimplemented 9/23/2019	2016	A-07-16-05090  7/5/2018
Office of the Secretary	Travel	<p>Review the lack of compliance with Federal requirements.</p> <p>Determine appropriate administrative actions to recoup (1) \$333,014 related to the authorization and use of chartered aircraft, (2) \$4,926 related to travel that started or ended in locations other than the official duty station, and (3) \$2,960 related to other excess travel costs.</p> <p>Improve processes and internal controls related to the use of chartered aircraft and to ensure compliance with applicable Federal regulations and HHS policies and procedures.</p>	Open <sup>1</sup> Unimplemented 1/11/2019	2017	A-12-17-00002  7/11/2018

<sup>1</sup> The OIG and the Office of the Secretary are in the resolution process for these findings.