Office of Inspector General Fiscal Year 2026 Strategic Spending Plan

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) submits this spending plan to outline its approach to meeting the SPEED plan for FY26. This strategic plan prioritizes spending reductions that aim to minimize the impact on the OIG's mission while achieving an overall reduction in state expenses, rather than merely transferring costs to another agency.

The operational budget for the OIG has been reduced by 5% from the FY25 allocation. With 92% of operational expenses dedicated to personnel costs, including salaries and benefits, and an additional 4.5% allocated to interagency services such as technology, accounting, and human resources, the OIG faces significant challenges in reducing expenses. Despite efforts to minimize the impact, these budget cuts will inevitably affect the OIG's ability to fully serve its core mission.

The primary way OIG will meet the reduced budget allocation is through reducing investment in external professional development for staff and reallocating certain resources to a project with dedicated funding. In this shift, OIG will necessarily reduce the overall volume of investigative activities, prioritizing engagement and enforcement matters with the greatest impact on the OIG mission.

Through a thorough examination of OIG operational expenses, additional cost savings include:

- Not renewing an equipment lease;
- Collaborating with IOT to reduce net technology costs while improving resource quality;
- Strategically reducing special agent travel to cut fuel and maintenance costs;
- Partnering with other state agencies on certain investigative research, allowing retirement of related inhouse equipment and services;
- Reducing or discontinuing several licenses and subscriptions;
- Reducing use of contracted services;
- Regularly reviewing surpluses before making supply/equipment purchases.

The OIG staffing plan includes:

- Reclassifying two senior leadership roles and restructuring responsibilities to save on personnel costs;
- Shifting certain staff resources to a project with dedicated funding for the fiscal year. If the project is less extensive than anticipated, some contracted roles will end early, and permanent staff will be redirected to other priority work.

Open and anticipated contracts:

- A current lease for a single copy machine with three years remaining in its term;
- A 12-month contract role supporting a dedicated project for the fiscal year;
- Reviewing options for a new report management system to handle complex cases and provide integrated reporting capabilities. After the initial implementation, the new system will reduce annual technology costs compared to the current legacy system and required IOT support.

Anticipated exceptions to FMCs or state policies include a request for exemption from the 5% reserve. Due to the impact from reducing the overall allocation for OIG operations, the exemption was approved to limit further negative impact to the OIG's mission.



State of Indiana

Mike Braun, Governor Chad Ranney, Director

State Budget Agency State House #212 Indianapolis, IN 46204 317-232-5610

Approved Fiscal Year 2026 Strategic Spending Reduction Plan

Agency Name: Office of Inspector General

Pursuant to applicable state budgeting and financial management guidelines, the undersigned hereby affirm that the Fiscal Year 2026 Strategic Spending Reduction Plan submitted for the above-named agency has been reviewed and is approved for implementation. This approval signifies the plan submitted is in alignment with agency priorities, applicable legal requirements, and available funding levels.

Chad E. Ranney
State Budget Director
Date: 8/27/25
Lisa Hershman
Lisa Hershman
Secretary of Management and Budget
Date: <u>8/27/25</u>
Jara Prantin
Jared Prentice
Inspector General
Date: 08/26/2025

Chad E. Ranney