

**Testimony of James R. Ives**  
**Nominee to be the Inspector General of the United States Department of the Treasury**  
**Nomination Hearing before the Senate Committee on Finance**  
**June 4, 2024**

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Crapo, and members of the Committee:

I am honored to have been nominated to serve as Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury. If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with this Committee in fulfilling the Office of Inspector General's vital oversight role.

I would like to recognize my wife, Jennifer, and our son, Jordan, for their continued support throughout this process. I also express my appreciation to my colleagues at the Department of Defense's Office of Inspector General (DoD IG) for their encouragement, professionalism, and accomplishments overseeing our nation's largest – and most complex – government institution.

I have dedicated my entire adult life to public service. Within two months of graduating college, I accepted an entry level position with the Department of Justice. Just over a year later, I transferred to DoD IG, where I served as a special agent with their law enforcement arm, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS), for over ten years. I quickly came to appreciate the critical importance of the Inspector General role, seeing firsthand how well-executed OIG initiatives can detect and deter fraud and abuse and return millions of dollars of ill-gotten gains to the government. My work entailed uncovering procurement fraud, health care fraud, cybercrimes, and diversion of sensitive military technology, resulting in successful criminal prosecutions and civil penalties and fines. By way of example, I participated in an exhaustive five-year investigation that resulted in the largest health care fraud recovery in our nation's history at the time.

In 2001, my life changed dramatically when I was detailed to New York City to assist with the government's investigation and recovery efforts following the September 11 terrorist attacks. Subsequent to the attacks, defending the country against additional terrorist events became DoD's top priority. I was then asked to serve as DoD IG's full-time representative to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force upon returning home, where I conducted counter-terrorism investigations on a full-time basis from 2001 through 2004. This experience taught me the value of interagency collaboration, and the importance of ensuring OIG priorities align with our nation's broader objectives.

In 2004, I was promoted into a DoD IG Headquarters position. Over the next several years, I held a variety of leadership positions at DoD IG, culminating in my appointment to the Senior Executive Service in 2009. Throughout this period, I developed a keen appreciation for the extent to which an Inspector General can foster positive change by promoting efficiency within their respective agency.

After serving for over two decades at DoD, I sought to diversify my portfolio and joined the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's OIG, where I led the Office of Investigations for approximately six years. While serving at NASA, I continued to engage in focused and objective oversight by overseeing investigations involving fraud, corruption, and other criminal

activity. I was also afforded the opportunity to serve as the Acting Inspector General of the Government Publishing Office in early 2019 while the organization was seeking a new permanent inspector general.

In 2021, I experienced a homecoming of sorts when I returned to DoD IG. I initially served as the organization's Deputy Inspector General for Overseas Contingency operations before returning to DCIS, where I currently serve as Principal Deputy Director. Since returning to DCIS, a primary focus has been ensuring we provide timely oversight of DoD's Ukraine response efforts. I am extremely proud of the extent to which the entire DoD IG workforce has embraced this critical mission.

Having served as a member of the OIG community for over 30 years, I am fully aware that the role of Inspector General can be a challenging one. IGs are unique in that they report to both the department they oversee and Congress. Successful IGs learn to master the art of respectfully and professionally engaging agency and congressional leaders while remaining independent, objective, and non-partisan. I believe my experience has shown that I am capable of ensuring that the Treasury Department's OIG embraces these tenets. And if confirmed, I will continue to engage in the same aggressive, objective oversight that I have consistently promoted throughout my entire career.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I would be happy to answer your questions.