

## COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

January 19, 2018

The Honorable J. Russell George  
Inspector General  
Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration  
1401 H Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Inspector General George:

The House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee consider a fundamental part of our work to be the robust and effective oversight of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). As part of our efforts, the Committees strongly value the work of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) to identify fraud, waste, and abuse within the IRS. Without your hard work, many of the issues brought to light since TIGTA's inception might never have been known, much less addressed. And for that, we are greatly appreciative of the accurate and thorough oversight provided by you and your talented staff. Given the importance of TIGTA's mission, we write today because we are concerned about the number of long-term vacancies and acting positions, particularly at the senior executive level, that exist within TIGTA.

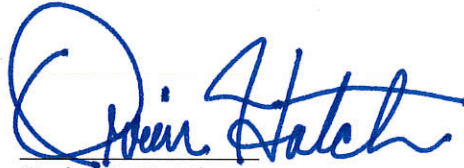
The Committees have been monitoring the growing number of TIGTA leadership vacancies for some time now and are troubled to see that you have not expeditiously filled all of them. While we continue to fully support TIGTA and its mission, we do not believe TIGTA is best served when its leadership positions are not permanently filled. If TIGTA is to continue to successfully oversee the IRS, it must seek to quickly and permanently fill its open management positions with strong and effective leaders. Acting positions are not intended to be long-term hiring solutions but are instead meant to cover short-term absences or vacancies. Furthermore, leaving individuals in acting positions, sometimes for years at a time, does not serve the agency well nor is it fair to the individual serving in an acting capacity.

Given these concerns, we will continue to closely monitor this situation in the coming months with the expectation that these positions will be filled (please see the enclosed list of vacant or acting positions that at a minimum are of concern to the Committees). If it is your intent to not permanently fill any of these positions within the next six months, we ask that you notify the Committees in writing of your intent not to do so and provide an explanation for your decision. Thank you in advance for your swift attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kevin Brady in blue ink, featuring a large, stylized 'K' and 'B'.

Kevin Brady  
Chairman  
House Committee on Ways and Means

Handwritten signature of Orrin G. Hatch in blue ink, featuring a large, stylized 'O' and 'H'.

Orrin G. Hatch  
Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee

**TIGTA Vacancies and Acting Positions**

Principal Deputy Inspector General (*Vacant*)

Senior Advisor (*Vacant*)

Inspector General Executive Assistant (*Vacant*)

Counselor to the Inspector General/Congressional Liaison (*Vacant*)

EEO Program Manager (*Vacant*)

Deputy Inspector General for Mission Support/Chief Financial Officer (*Acting*)

Deputy Inspector General for Inspections and Evaluations (*Acting*)

Deputy Inspector General for Investigations (*Acting*)

Assistant Inspector General for Investigations - Field Operations (*Acting*)

Assistant Inspector General for Investigations - Threat, Agent Safety, and Sensitive  
Investigations Directorate (*Acting*)