

# Peer Review of the Audit Operations of the National Credit Union Administration Office of the Inspector General

**ISSUED: March 30, 2016** 



# U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION BETHESDA, MD 20814

Christopher W. Dentel Inspector General

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### **System Review Report**

March 30, 2016

Mr. James Hagen, Inspector General National Credit Union Administration 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Hagen:

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the audit organization of the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), Office of Inspector General (OIG) in effect for the year ended September 30, 2015. A system of quality control encompasses NCUA OIG's organizational structure and the policies adopted and procedures established to provide it with reasonable assurance of conforming with *Government Auditing Standards*. The elements of quality control are described in *Government Auditing Standards*. The NCUA OIG is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of quality control that is designed to provide NCUA OIG with reasonable assurance that the organization and its personnel comply with professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and NCUA OIG's compliance therewith based on our review.

Our review was conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) *Guide for Conducting Peer Reviews of the Audit Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General.*<sup>2</sup> During our review, we interviewed NCUA OIG personnel and obtained an understanding of the nature of the NCUA OIG audit organization, and the design of NCUA OIG's system of quality control sufficient to assess the risks implicit in its audit function. Based on our assessments, we selected audits and attestation engagements, collectively referred to as "audits," and administrative files to test for conformity with professional standards and compliance with NCUA OIG's system of quality control. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> United States Governmental Accountability Office, *Government Auditing Standards*, dated December 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CIGIE Guide for Conducting Peer Reviews of the Audit Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General, dated September 2014

audits selected represented a reasonable cross-section of the NCUA OIG audit organization, with emphasis on higher-risk audits. Prior to concluding the peer review, we reassessed the adequacy of the scope of the peer review procedures and met with the NCUA OIG management to discuss the results of our review. We believe that the procedures we performed provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In performing our review, we obtained an understanding of the system of quality control for the NCUA OIG audit organization. In addition, we tested compliance with the NCUA OIG's quality control policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. These tests covered the application of the NCUA OIG's policies and procedures on selected audits. Our review was based on selected tests; therefore, it would not necessarily detect all weaknesses in the system of quality control or all instances of noncompliance with it.

There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of any system of quality control, and, therefore, noncompliance with the system of quality control may occur and not be detected. Projection of any evaluation of a system of quality control to future periods is subject to the risk that the system of quality control may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or because the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

The enclosure to this report identifies the NCUA OIG offices that we visited and the audits that we reviewed.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the audit organization of the NCUA OIG in effect for the year ended September 30, 2015, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the NCUA OIG with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Audit organizations can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiencies*, or *fail*. The NCUA OIG has received an External Peer Review rating of *pass*.

As is customary, we have issued a letter dated March 30, 2016 that sets forth findings that were not considered to be of sufficient significance to affect our opinion expressed in this report.

In addition to reviewing its system of quality control to ensure adherence with Government Auditing Standards, we applied certain limited procedures in accordance with guidance established by the CIGIE related to NCUA OIG's monitoring of audits performed by Independent Public Accountants (IPAs) under contract where the IPA served as the auditor. It should be noted that monitoring of audits performed by IPAs is not an audit and, therefore, is not subject to the requirements of Government Auditing Standards. The purpose of our limited procedures was to determine whether the NCUA OIG had controls to ensure IPAs performed contracted work in accordance with professional standards. However, our objective was not to express an opinion and accordingly, we do not express an opinion, on NCUA OIG's monitoring of work performed by IPAs.

We made certain comments related to NCUA OIG's monitoring of audits performed by IPAs that are included in the above referenced letter dated March 30, 2016.

Christopher W. Dentel, Inspector General

Enclosure

## **ENCLOSURE**

### Scope and Methodology

We tested compliance with NCUA OIG audit organization's system of quality control to the extent we considered appropriate. These tests included a review of 2 of 10 audit reports issued during the period October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015. We also reviewed the internal quality control reviews performed by NCUA OIG.

In addition, we reviewed NCUA OIG's monitoring of audits performed by IPAs where the IPA served as the auditor during the period October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015. During the period, NCUA OIG contracted for the audit of its agency's fiscal year 2014 financial statements. The NCUA OIG also contracted for certain other audits that were to be performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

We visited NCUA's offices located Alexandria, VA.

Reviewed Engagements Performed by NCUA OIG		
Report No.	Report Date	Report Title
		Review of NCUA's Efforts to Promote Opportunity
14-09	11/26/2014	and Achieve Diversity in Senior Management
		NCUA Measures to Protect Credit Union Member
15-09	6/8/2015	Information during the examination process
Reviewed Monitoring Files of NCUA OIG for Contracted Engagements		
Report No.	Report Date	Report Title
		Independent Evaluation of NCUA's Compliance
		with the Federal Information Security Management
14-08	11/13/2014	Act (FISMA) 2014
		FY2014 Financial Statement Audits for Central
		Liquidity Facility, Community Development
		Revolving Loan Fund, Operating Fund and share
15-02/03/04/05	2/17/2015	Insurance fund



#### Office of Inspector General

March 22, 2016

Christopher W. Dentel Inspector General U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Subject: Report on the External Quality Control Review of the National Credit Union Administration Inspector General Audit Organization

Dear Mr. Dentel:

We appreciate the work conducted by your staff in reviewing the quality control process for the audit function at the National Credit Union Administration Office of Inspector General. We agree with your opinion that the system of quality control for the audit function has been suitably designed and complied with to provide reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with professional standards in all material aspects. We have no additional comments on the final System Review draft report provided. Thank you for your efforts in completing this review.

Sincerely,

James W. Hagen Inspector General