

- Inspector General investigations led to the recovery of \$5.5 million in state dollars in the last three years

Inspector General

Jonathan Lee, Budget Analyst

ROLE

The Office of Inspector General (IG) investigates fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption within the executive branch of state government. Complaints received by the office are reviewed and evaluated to determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe the underlying allegations, if true, would constitute a “wrongful act or omission” on the part of a state officer, agency, or employee.

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
7	\$912,000	\$912,000	\$812,000	\$812,000	Am. Sub. H.B. 95

*Employee head count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 28, 2003.

OVERVIEW

The Inspector General’s fiscal year (FY) 2004-2005 total GRF appropriations increased 25% above FY 2002-2003 initial GRF appropriation levels. These increases will provide for the addition of one investigator and one part-time clerical position as well as supplies and equipment. Throughout the biennium, the IG will continue to investigate complaints, and educate state employees of instances of wrongdoing in state government.

BUDGET ISSUES

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Am. Sub. H.B. 95 permits the IG to use up to \$100,000 in each fiscal year for special investigations. As needed and approved, the money is transferred from the Controlling Board’s Contingency/Emergency Purposes line item to the Inspector General’s appropriation item 965-602, Special Investigations, in the State Special Revenue Fund Group.

JURISDICTION & REIMBURSEMENT

The Governor vetoed two provisions in the IG's budget. First, the Governor vetoed a provision that would have expanded the IG's jurisdiction to include the Ohio Retirement Study Council, the Ohio Historical Society, the Public Employees Retirement System, the State Teachers Retirement System, the School Employees Retirement System, the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, and the State Highway Patrol Retirement System. Second, the Governor vetoed a provision that would have authorized the IG to accept reimbursement from private parties, state agencies, or other entities for the costs of investigations. All reimbursements would have been credited to the GRF. 

FY 2004 - 2005 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Group

<i>Line Item Detail by Agency</i>	<i>FY 2001:</i>	<i>FY 2002:</i>	<i>FY 2003:</i>	<i>FY 2004 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2003 to 2004:</i>	<i>FY 2005 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2004 to 2005:</i>
Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill		Version: Enacted					
IGO Inspector General							
GRF 965-321 Operating Expenses	\$ 602,977	\$ 564,068	\$628,246	\$ 812,000	29.25%	\$ 812,000	0.00%
General Revenue Fund Total	\$ 602,977	\$ 564,068	\$ 628,246	\$ 812,000	29.25%	\$ 812,000	0.00%
4Z3 965-602 Special Investigations	\$ 97,476	\$ 104,514	\$91,625	\$ 100,000	9.14%	\$ 100,000	0.00%
State Special Revenue Fund Group Total	\$ 97,476	\$ 104,514	\$ 91,625	\$ 100,000	9.14%	\$ 100,000	0.00%
Inspector General Total	\$ 700,453	\$ 668,582	\$ 719,871	\$ 912,000	26.69%	\$ 912,000	0.00%