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## APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

Office of the Inspector General  
(Including Transfer of Funds)

*For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$32,000,000, together with not to exceed \$82,665,000, to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund: Provided, That \$2,000,000 shall remain available until expended for information technology modernization, including related hardware and software infrastructure and equipment, and for administrative expenses directly associated with information technology modernization.*

*In addition, an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the total provided in this appropriation may be transferred from the “Limitation on Administrative Expenses”, Social Security Administration, to be merged with this account, to be available for the time and purposes for which this account is available: Provided, That notice of such transfers shall be transmitted promptly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.*

Note. — This account is operating under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (Division D of Public Law 119–75).

## GENERAL STATEMENT

### OVERVIEW

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The Social Security Administration (SSA) Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) [strategic path](#), including the SSA OIG mission, vision, and strategic goals, forms the foundation for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Budget. The FY 2027 Budget includes **\$114.7** million for SSA OIG direct appropriations and includes **\$2** million to remain available until expended for information technology (IT) modernization.

SSA OIG's mission is to serve the public through independent oversight of SSA's programs and operations. SSA OIG accomplishes this mission by conducting independent audits, evaluations, and investigations; searching for and reporting systemic weaknesses in SSA's programs and operations; and providing recommendations for program, operations, and management improvements. SSA OIG's vision is to drive meaningful change to protect taxpayer dollars. The mission and vision, together, emphasize SSA OIG's role as public servants and agents of positive change. In FY 2025, SSA OIG identified \$16 in returns to the government for every \$1 in appropriations.

The FY 2027 Budget will allow SSA OIG to perform its core mission of auditing and investigating SSA programs and operations more efficiently and effectively. In particular, SSA OIG's oversight responsibilities will increasingly rely upon building its data analytics capacity; investing in information technology modernization and automation tools; devoting resources to better understand the significance that artificial intelligence (AI) will play in SSA's program and operations and the oversight needed by SSA OIG to help identify and minimize vulnerabilities in agency systems and programs; and monitoring the agency's focus on its human capital needs to keep up with technological advances and other evolving and emerging areas. These improvements will lead to a more innovative, nimble, and responsive organization.

#### **Cooperative Disability Investigations (CDI) Program**

In addition to the request for \$114.7 million for direct base appropriations, the FY 2027 Budget requests SSA transfer **\$25.1** million from SSA's Limitation on Administrative Expenses (LAE) program integrity adjustment to the SSA OIG for the SSA OIG's direct costs of leading the jointly operated anti-fraud CDI Program. This funding level represents an increase of \$500,000 over the FY 2026 enacted level of \$24.6 million allowing us to fully fund our current CDI operational needs and provide additional support for our CDI units.

#### **Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency**

In FY 2027, SSA OIG will contribute an estimated \$450,700<sup>1</sup> to the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), an annual amount determined by

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<sup>1</sup> Estimate reflects CIGIE's current funding assessment of 0.40 percent starting. This percentage is applied against SSA OIG's direct appropriations excluding no-year funding dedicated to IT Modernization.

CIGIE. CIGIE is an independent entity established within the Executive Branch to address integrity, economy, and effectiveness issues that transcend individual Government agencies and aid in the establishment of a professional, well-trained, and highly skilled workforce in the Offices of Inspectors General.

*Based on an average from the last three fiscal years, each additional investigative full-time equivalent (FTE) could potentially result in an estimated 31 additional cases closed and \$1.1 million in additional monetary accomplishments. For every additional audit FTE, SSA OIG could produce an additional audit report. Over the past three years, an SSA OIG audit, on average, has identified about \$29 million in questioned costs and about \$28 million in funds put to better use.*

## STRATEGIC GOALS

SSA OIG consistently delivers valuable oversight information to SSA, the U.S. Congress, other stakeholders, and the American public. SSA OIG is committed to providing oversight and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse within SSA’s programs and operations while remaining steadfast in our mission to ensure accountability and integrity in accordance with our statutory obligations and Administration’s priorities.

SSA OIG will continue to prioritize our work to focus on those areas in SSA programs and operations that are most vulnerable to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement. The U.S. Congress and the American people can expect us to continue our statutory work to promote the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of SSA’s programs and operations. As workloads increase and evolve, SSA OIG will continue to provide products that drive meaningful change.

SSA OIG’s strategic path lays the foundation for the FY 2027 Budget. SSA OIG’s strategic goals, nested within the strategic path, are:

- Strategic Goal 1: Deliver solutions to promote positive change
- Strategic Goal 2: Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs and operations
- Strategic Goal 3: Optimize operations
- Strategic Goal 4: Strengthen our workforce

<b>Table 4.1 – OIG Performance Measures<sup>1</sup></b>			
<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>FY 2025 Target</b>	<b>FY 2025 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2026 Targets</b>
Review and take action on 90% of hotline allegations within 5 days of receipt	90%	99.7%	Discontinued
Substantially complete investigative fieldwork on 75% of Social Security program fraud investigations within 180 days	75%	72.9%	Discontinued
Work with SSA to ensure 80% of the recommendations we made within the last 4 fiscal years, which SSA agreed to implement, have been resolved	80%	81.7%	Discontinued
Ensure that 75% of audits are issued within one year from the entrance conference	75%	59%	Discontinued
Exceed the 3-year trailing average return-on-investment as reported by CIGIE.	21-to-1	16-to-1	20-to-1 <sup>2</sup>
Ensure that 85% of formal recommendations are	N/A	N/A	85%

<sup>1</sup> Beginning in FY 2026, SSA OIG updated their performance measures in accordance with the President’s priorities. As a result, we have discontinued previously reported performance measures and replaced them with new measures that align with the President’s Management Agenda.

<sup>2</sup> FY 2026 target reflects the 3-year trailing average return on investment reported by CIGIE.

accepted by SSA			
Ensure that 70% of audits are delivered in a timely matter and adhere to established timeframes	N/A	N/A	70%
Issue at least 35 audit products per fiscal year	N/A	N/A	35
Ensure 90% of preliminary assessments assigned for development are closed or converted to an investigation within 60 days of assignment	N/A	N/A	90%
Achieve a favorable outcome to the public, SSA or the integrity of its programs on 75% of closed cases during the fiscal year.	N/A	N/A	75%

**Strategic Goal 1: Deliver solutions to promote positive change**

SSA OIG’s first strategic goal aligns with the mission to protect American taxpayer dollars. To meet this goal, SSA OIG will prioritize initiatives in three key areas: expanded oversight responsibilities, impactful audits, and education and outreach.

**Expanded Oversight Responsibilities**

SSA OIG continues to devote significant resources to expanded oversight responsibilities that include executive mandates, such as the April 15, 2025 Presidential Memorandum, [Preventing Illegal Aliens from Obtaining Social Security Act Benefits](#), emerging fraud schemes, such as Social Security’s online services fraud and fraudulent direct deposit diversions, artificial intelligence (AI), and Social Security-related imposter scams.

*Executive Orders and Presidential Memorandums*

SSA OIG’s Office of Investigations (OI) has remained nimble with the ability to prioritize Executive Orders and Presidential directives. Recently, Presidential Memorandum, [Preventing Illegal Aliens from Obtaining Social Security Act Benefits](#), included several directives that will impact and enhance existing and future investigative work conducted by OI. Generally, the memorandum requires the Commissioner of SSA, in consultation with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, to take measures that ensure ineligible aliens are not receiving funds from Social Security Act programs. The Memorandum also directs the Attorney General, and the Commissioner of Social Security to expand SSA’s full-time fraud prosecutor program to at least 50 U.S. Attorney Offices.

In addition to our core investigative mission, in January 2025, OI began to pivot and engage with our law enforcement partners on the following initiatives that align with the priorities of the Trump Administration:

- The Removable Alien Project – which looks to identify individuals who are receiving benefits from SSA and were ordered deported but remained in the country. From a list of approximately 10,000 individuals identified as removable by Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the OIG found 191 individuals in current pay for Social Security

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benefits and opened an investigation. The OIG provided the information from our investigation to HSI in May and requested the removal status for each of the 191 individuals. Investigative work is on-going.

- Travel & Residency Enforcement Cooperation – focuses on identifying Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients who conceal foreign travel and residency. As a result of these efforts, Alireza Sharghi pleaded guilty to Social Security fraud. On January 28, 2026, he was sentenced to 60 days in jail and 3 years of supervised release and ordered to pay restitution totaling \$376,546 to the SSA, California Department of Health Care Services, and the U.S. Treasury. The investigation began in March 2025 after a referral alleged that Sharghi concealed his mother’s residence outside the U.S. and continued to collect benefits after her death in 2018. In addition, criminal charges have been filed in two other cases, which are currently pending in the judicial system. A fourth case has been referred to the U.S. Attorney’s Office and is awaiting a charging decision. Additional investigations are expected to be initiated throughout the year.

These initiatives involve analysis of large data sets to identify investigative leads. As these leads come to fruition, additional OIG personnel will be needed to conduct investigations on individuals defrauding SSA programs and support the workload stream for the newly assigned Special Assistant United States Attorneys (SAUSAs) and subsequent criminal prosecutions.

SSA OIG is authorized to verify the use of a Social Security Number (SSN) when receiving an official request from a law enforcement entity. In recent months, OIG has received a significant increase in SSN verification requests. Since late January of 2025, OIG has received more than twice as many compared to all of FY 2024. Specifically, we have received 52 requests to verify a total of 260,114 name and SSN combinations. Of these, 10 requests involved lists with over 1,000 combinations each. Notably, one request included 126,294 verifications for an FBI investigation involving a massive data breach, and several from Homeland Security with the largest involving 67,369 individuals suspected of being illegally present in the United States. To manage this increased workload, OIG has realigned and trained staff to conduct analytical work in support of these efforts.

### *Obtaining, Securing, and Storing Digital Evidence*

The landscape of digital evidence is rapidly changing. Technological advancements have unlocked new capabilities, but antiquated systems can hinder the investigative process as the volume of digital evidence available to investigators continues to grow. SSA OIG recognizes the need to modernize how it identifies, stores, manages, investigates and shares essential evidence. Equally important is the protection of original evidence files to ensure they remain unaltered during the investigative process.

With the responsibility for digital storage costs shifting from SSA to SSA OIG in FY 2026, OI has identified a solution for digital evidence management that will reduce costs, increase security and encryption, and enhance our ability to organize evidence and share evidence externally with

our law enforcement and prosecutorial partners. Currently, OI relies on an outdated repository for storing digital evidence and agencies face challenges with storage, playback and management due to antiquated systems. As digital evidence continues to grow, SSA OIG is challenged to keep up with current demands. Our most frequently used solutions for saving digital evidence include our case management system, internal storage servers, USB drives, and CDs/DVDs. Many of these methods can no longer accommodate all the digital evidence collected during investigations. In larger, more complex cases, we often use three or more different methods to store digital data in a single case.

OI plans to upgrade an existing contract for cloud storage of body-worn camera data to manage non-forensic digital evidence such as social media, interview room camera files, surveillance videos (law enforcement, CCTV, ATM, etc.), and data submitted by witnesses or victims. At an additional cost of approximately \$100,000 in FY 2027, the SSA OIG will be able to implement a digital evidence platform that is not only cost effective, but forensically sound and fully compatible with the U.S. Department of Justice and local prosecutors. This will ensure criminal and civil discovery are conducted using established best practices.

### *Artificial Intelligence*

On July 23, 2025, the White House released [\*Winning the Race: America's AI Action Plan\*](#), following President Trump's executive order on [\*Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence\*](#). The Plan outlines over 90 federal policy actions across three pillars: Accelerating Innovation, Building American AI Infrastructure, and Leading in International Diplomacy and Security. In line with these directives, SSA OIG is leveraging AI to enhance operations and oversight.

The Action Plan highlights AI's potential to improve government efficiency, streamline processes, and enhance customer service. However, AI can also be exploited for fraud, such as redirecting deposits, email scams, fake IDs, deepfakes, and synthetic identities. To address these risks, SSA OIG formed an internal AI Task Force in FY 2023, which collaborates with other agencies to share best practices on AI-related fraud.

Starting in 2024, SSA's AI Core Team and SSA OIG's AI Task Force began regular meetings to discuss AI use cases, responsible AI assessments, risks, and performance evaluations. SSA OIG continues to train staff in AI, including courses on responsible AI, to better respond to emerging threats.

As AI transforms the economy, protecting government benefits and payment systems is increasingly important. By FY 2027, SSA OIG's oversight will expand to identify risks and recommend improvements to SSA's use of AI to administer its programs. Investments in hardware, software, and training are essential to equip personnel to investigate AI-enabled crimes and support prosecutions.

SSA OIG has become more agile in responding to threats from organized criminal groups targeting SSA beneficiaries. Investigations now require advanced digital forensic tools and

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techniques to manage cases, analyze digital evidence, and comply with federal security standards.

Therefore, SSA OIG is investing in forensic tools to address AI-enabled fraud, which challenges traditional methods. Modern digital forensics involves collecting and analyzing data from computers, mobile devices, cloud storage, and Internet of Things (IoT) devices. Training agents in digital evidence and AI is ongoing.

Forensic data analytics uses AI and machine learning to detect fraud patterns in large datasets. AI-powered tools automate log analysis and pattern recognition, helping disrupt fraudulent activities and prosecute offenders. These tools also streamline data collection and analysis, especially in time-sensitive cases.

Mobile device forensic tools, enhanced with AI, are crucial for investigating crimes committed via smartphones and tablets. They automate the extraction and analysis of key evidence, quickly identifying suspicious activity.

While AI offers significant advantages in digital forensics, challenges remain, such as ensuring data quality and keeping pace with evolving fraud tactics. Continuous updates and collaboration between AI tools and human investigators are essential to effectively counter AI-enabled fraud and uphold justice.

### *Investigating Fraud in SSA's Online Services*

Since the start of FY 2021, SSA OIG has received more than 250,000 online services-related fraud allegations, including fraud schemes that misuse or are facilitated by SSA's online platforms, such as *my Social Security*. For example, criminals used stolen personally identifiable information (PII)—often obtained from data breaches and trafficked by transnational organizations on the dark web—to file fraudulent benefit applications or redirect benefit payments to fraudulent bank accounts.

As online services fraud continues to evolve, SSA OIG will require both analytical and investigative resources to provide oversight that is pivotal to protecting the public through FY 2027 and beyond. In FY 2027, SSA OIG aspires to fully deploy advanced data analytics and generative AI tools to expeditiously identify and flag clusters of the most egregious cases of potential fraud for immediate investigation.

### *Investigating Social Security-Related Government Imposter Scams*

In FY 2025, SSA OIG received nearly 65,200 imposter scam allegations. While this number has decreased from previous years, it still represents a persistent problem that threatens the integrity of SSA programs and operations. For example, over the past five years, SSA OIG and law enforcement partners investigated a money laundering operation involving government imposter scammers in the Mid- and Southwest United States. The scammers ran a telemarketing scheme from call centers in India, coercing victims into falsely believing they were under investigation by FBI, DEA, and SSA agents. Victims were instructed to send money—often through gift cards

or cash via FedEx—to clear their names. U.S.-based “runners” collected and disposed of the funds as directed. The investigation identified and prosecuted over a dozen members of the criminal enterprise, resulting in substantial jail terms and restitution. The scheme caused more than \$13 million in losses to hundreds of victims. This case resulted in 15 indictments, 14 convictions (one fugitive), over \$15.8 million in restitution ordered to hundreds of victims and 791 months imprisonment for the 14 convicted conspirators.

In another case, the SSA OIG investigative team in conjunction with the FBI, secured seven guilty pleas in a government imposter scam involving transnational money laundering. The first defendant was sentenced to 51 months in prison and ordered to pay \$600,000 in restitution. The second defendant was sentenced to 30 months and ordered to pay \$600,000 in restitution. In June 2025, one defendant was found guilty of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, and two defendants were found guilty of money laundering and conspiracy to commit money laundering. In October 2025, the third defendant was sentenced to 39 months in prison and ordered to pay \$2,202,397 in restitution. The fourth defendant was sentenced to 33 months in prison and ordered to pay \$472,000 in restitution. The fifth defendant was sentenced to 37 months in prison and ordered to pay \$108,609 in restitution.

SSA OIG will continue to investigate imposter scams and leverage data analytics, technology enhancements, and partnerships with the private sector, regulatory agencies and other law enforcement agencies, to identify scam trends, promote public awareness, and prosecute scammers. In FY 2027, SSA OIG will continue to dedicate staff to analyze imposter scam allegations, develop investigative leads, and implement effective investigative strategies to combat fraud schemes.

## Impactful Audits

SSA OIG’s core audit oversight efforts revolve around SSA’s most significant [management challenges](#). SSA OIG annually identifies these challenges based on congressional mandates, audits, and investigative work.

During FY 2025, SSA OIG completed audits that promoted positive change in SSA policies and procedures, such as [Workload Management for Field Offices](#), which included five recommendations to ensure field office managers have the necessary knowledge and tools to continuously improve Agency performance, including updating trainings, providing refresher training, enhancing written training materials, and consolidating and updating reports, systems, and tools. Similarly, [Rejection of State Death Reports](#) reviewed the appropriateness of rejected State death reports and the impact rejections had on SSA program and administrative costs, and included three recommendations to improve the accuracy of death information in SSA’s Numident and payment records. SSA OIG also promotes positive change by conducting audits that identify underpayments to beneficiaries caused by insufficient policies and controls, such as SSA not properly closing out original Denied Disability Claims that Required Manual Notifications to Claimants. SSA OIG found that when the claimants later refiled for disability benefits, SSA owed them additional months of retroactive payments (underpayments).

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During FY 2025, SSA OIG issued 44 audits and identified over \$708 million in questioned costs and over \$975 million in funds that could have been put to better use. Largely contributing to the questioned costs totals were the following audit reports:

- [Processing Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Overpayments](#);
- [Rejection of State Death Reports](#); and
- [Match of New York City Death Information Against Social Security Administration Records](#).

In [Processing Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Overpayments](#), SSA OIG estimated SSA incorrectly processed, or could have processed sooner, approximately 183,100 overpayments (18.5 percent) totaling over \$612 million. SSA OIG also estimated SSA overstated by approximately \$904 million the overpayments the Agency recovered during FYs 2022 and 2023 because the Agency's systems reflected overpayments as recovered by benefit withholding when they were not.

Year after year, one consistently reported challenge by SSA is improving the prevention, detection, and recovery of improper payments. SSA OIG continues working on impactful audits that will promote cost savings and positive change in SSA policies and procedures. As of January 2026, SSA OIG had 20 audits in process related to improving the prevention, detection, and recovery of improper payments.

A list of all SSA OIG ongoing audit work is available at our [website](#).

### *Audits Reviewing Customer Service at SSA*

SSA OIG will continue to focus on customer service issues at SSA to promote positive change which is addressed in the following reports from FY 2025.

[Individuals Who Elect to Receive Retirement Benefits After Age 70](#) (June 2025): SSA OIG determined whether SSA (1) correctly paid beneficiaries who filed for retirement benefits after age 70 according to policy and procedures and (2) reached out to individuals who were over age 70 and eligible to receive benefits.

#### **Findings:**

- SSA complied with its policy and procedures when it correctly paid most beneficiaries who filed for retirement benefits after age 70.
- During our audit, SSA was working toward improving automation tools that include calculating benefit rates.
- SSA conducted outreach to individuals who were over age 70 and who had not filed for benefits.
- Despite the outreach, we estimated about 88,000 individuals could have received approximately \$1.5 billion in benefits had they filed for retirement at age 70.

**Resulting Actions:**

- Although SSA conducts outreach to alert individuals that they could receive full retirement benefits once they reach age 70, we suggested SSA use the information in our report to determine whether it should do more outreach.
- We did not make formal recommendations to SSA because, although we contacted the beneficiaries in our review who had signed up to collect retirement benefits after age 70 to determine why they did not file for benefits at age 70, we did not receive enough responses.

SSA plans to continue exploring opportunities to share information about retirement benefits, including to beneficiaries who are approaching age 70 and still not receiving retirement benefits.

[Remittance Processing](#) (July 2025): SSA OIG determined whether SSA processed remittances according to policy. Remittances are generally repayments of overpaid funds but can also include the return of retroactive Medicare premiums, funds a representative payee conserved on a beneficiary's behalf, payments made to beneficiaries before they withdraw their claims for benefits, garnishment and court-ordered restitution payments, and incorrect payments.

**Findings:**

- Program Service Center (PSC) employees incorrectly processed, or did not fully process, over 127,000 (38 percent) remittance exceptions according to policy.
- SSA lacked controls to (1) ensure PSC employees took appropriate actions and (2) alert employees when they did not take proper actions during the remittance exception process.
- Until SSA addresses these issues, employees may continue delaying the re-issuance of funds the Agency owes to tens of thousands of beneficiaries.

**Recommendations:**

- Review, and take appropriate corrective action for the 67 remittance exceptions that employees processed incorrectly.
- Using a risk-based approach, review and take appropriate actions on remaining unissued remittance funds.
- Provide targeted training to PSC employees who process remittance exceptions on the policy-compliant procedures to address the errors we identified.
- Remind employees who process remittance exceptions of the required steps to process them and the potential effects of not following policies.

[Staffing, Productivity, and Processing Times at State Disability Determination Services](#) (July 2025): SSA OIG determined the impact of Disability Determination Services (DDS) staffing on productivity and processing time from FYs 2019 through 2023.

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### Findings:

- The loss of key technical staff experienced by DDSs during FYs 2019 through 2023 coincided with lower productivity and increased processing times.
- Despite combined efforts, DDS staffing losses and SSA's limited ability to address them ultimately delayed claimants' disability determinations and any benefits to which they were entitled.
- SSA must focus on what is within its control, such as working with states to ensure appropriate job classifications and giving DDSs the authority to replace staffing losses as needed to prevent further reduced productivity and increased processing times.

### Recommendations:

- Work with states to ensure appropriate job classifications for DDS employees, particularly disability examiners.
- Resume the retention and recruitment workgroup, or a similar endeavor, to develop initiatives that provide support to DDSs.
- Consider technologies, such as artificial intelligence, that could accelerate the Transferability of Skills Assessment or other processes without compromising the accuracy of DDS' disability determinations.
- Work with DDSs to identify an ideal staffing level at each DDS and estimate the costs to achieve those staffing levels to support congressional budget requests.
- Create procedures that give DDSs the flexibility to replace staffing losses as needed throughout the year based on annual budget estimates.

### *Audits Addressing Vulnerable Populations*

Over the years, SSA OIG has completed audits identifying underpayments, potential underpayments, or untimely payments of funds due or benefits to vulnerable populations, such as child beneficiaries, widows, SSI recipients, surviving spouses, and beneficiaries whose medical condition was not expected to improve. For example, in June 2025, SSA OIG completed an audit that found SSA's partial compliance with two provisions in the [Department of Agriculture Agreement for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-related services](#) may have adversely affected an estimated 162,080 SSI claimants or recipients.

In September 2025, SSA OIG completed an audit that found SSA incorrectly [Denied Child's Insurance Benefit Claims](#) for reasons unrelated to disability. As a result of employee errors, SSA did not pay these beneficiaries approximately \$92.2 million in benefits and delayed paying these beneficiaries approximately \$87.7 million in benefits to which they were entitled.

SSA OIG has ongoing work that focuses on services provided to vulnerable populations. Specifically, SSA OIG has work in progress to determine whether SSI recipients may also be eligible for Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) benefits and whether SSA paid retroactive payments to child beneficiaries receiving OASDI benefits when they were due. SSA OIG is also working on an audit to determine whether SSA is ensuring SSI recipients receive underpayments they are due and identify challenges that prevent timely underpayment issuance.

SSA's oversight of the Representative Payee Program is critical to ensuring beneficiaries receive the benefits and services they should. SSA OIG has completed numerous audits over the years to ensure SSA completes appropriate representative payee reviews and has complete information for those serving as representative payees. In September 2025, SSA OIG reviewed SSA's process to pay [Benefits it Previously had Withheld Pending the Selection of a Representative Payee](#). SSA OIG found that unless the Agency improves its processes and controls to ensure employees properly pay benefits SSA withheld pending the selection of representative payees, the Agency will continue to underpay thousands of beneficiaries millions in benefits they are entitled to receive, which may cause beneficiaries financial hardship.

#### *Audits Concerning IT Security at SSA*

SSA OIG continues to be concerned as Federal information systems, and the information they contain, are increasingly becoming targets of cyber-attacks. SSA must ensure its information systems are secure, and sensitive data are protected. Prior SSA OIG audit<sup>1</sup> and investigative work has revealed serious concerns with the security of SSA's information systems.

SSA OIG performs a vital role in ensuring the agency's IT investments are economically prudent and inform the agency, the U.S. Congress, and the American public. To ensure SSA OIG is positioned to provide timely, effective oversight of SSA's information security efforts in an ever-changing environment, staff must possess knowledge and skills regarding the latest advancements in the IT field. SSA OIG plans to expand its IT oversight by hiring specialists to audit SSA's overall IT environment and information security, bring on additional IT audit staff to replace those who have separated, and invest in ongoing training focused on evolving technologies, new vulnerabilities, and emerging threats.

SSA OIG continues to complete important work to ensure SSA's data is protected. In August 2025, SSA OIG identified gaps in SSA's policies, procedures, and practices to secure its [firewalls](#) and networks against threats that increased the risk of unauthorized access to sensitive and critical infrastructure. Effective firewall administration is crucial for preventing unwanted and unapproved traffic from infiltrating the internal network. SSA OIG made 13

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<sup>1</sup> See the following reports: [Audit Summary – The Social Security Administration's Information Security Program and Practices for Fiscal Year 2025](#); [Summary of the Audit of the Social Security Administration's Information Security Program and Practices for Fiscal Year 2023](#); [Security of the Social Security Administration's Disability Case Processing System](#); [The Social Security Administration's Implementation of iPaySSA](#); [The Social Security Administration's Controls Over Malware Introduced by Email Phishing](#); [The Social Security Administration's Controls Over Malicious Software and Data Exfiltration](#); and [Security of the Social Security Administration's Cloud Environment](#).

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recommendations to secure SSA's networks and resources and SSA agreed to implement those recommendations. In a September 2025 report, SSA OIG determined that SSA needed to update its guidance and evaluate the effectiveness of its updated processes and controls to ensure employees respond to [personally identifiable information losses](#) properly.

Ongoing audits will make recommendations in other priority areas including SSA's Insider Threat Program, Intrusion Detection Prevention Systems, and information security program and practices for FY 2026.

### Education and Outreach

SSA OIG remains proactive through its education and outreach efforts which include areas related to disrupting social security-related imposter scams, whistleblower rights and protections, collaboration with SSA, and promoting the SSA-OIG mission.

#### *Disrupting Social Security-Related Government Imposter Scams*

In 2024, according to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) consumers reported losing \$12.5 billion to scams, including government imposter scams. Adjusting for underreporting, the FTC estimates the actual fraud loss in the United States could be as high as \$158 billion annually.

SSA remains a top federal agency used in schemes by criminals to defraud American citizens out of their hard-earned money. As scams continue to rise, our coordinated scam outreach and education efforts are more important than ever to protect consumers and empower them to "slam the scam."

Throughout the year, SSA OIG collaborates with all levels of government, leverages anti-fraud interests of private companies, and engages with special interest groups who focus on combatting fraud. SSA OIG regularly engages with the news media and the United States Congress to broaden consumer education efforts, including through television and podcast interviews, radio engagement, social media content, print media, and scam alerts. SSA OIG continues to amplify anti-fraud messages by fostering strategic relationships and identifying new alliances. SSA OIG, in collaboration with SSA, manages [ssa.gov/scam](https://ssa.gov/scam), providing current anti-scam content and resources.

SSA OIG regularly educates the public about the tactics scammers use and encourages the public not to engage with scammers through its National Slam the Scam Day education and outreach campaign. In 2025, the sixth annual National Slam the Scam Day garnered a social media audience of 25.5 million across X (Twitter), Facebook, and Instagram; a television and radio audience of almost one million, and a print and online audience of potentially 282 million. On March 5, 2026, SSA OIG and SSA will launch the seventh annual National Slam the Scam Day campaign.

As part of its education and outreach campaign, SSA OIG frequently engages with Congressional offices and committees on scam-related information. The United States Senate, in support of SSA OIG's efforts to protect consumers from scams, unanimously passed a bipartisan

resolution ([S. Res. 118](#)), introduced by U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging Chairman Rick Scott (R-FL) designating March 6, 2025, as “National Slam the Scam Day.” Less than a week later, on March 12, 2025, Chairman Scott (R-FL) held a congressional hearing on Capitol Hill where witnesses testified about the impacts of senior loneliness, including an increased vulnerability to scams. Additionally, SSA OIG gathers data on government imposter scams throughout the year and provides a quarterly report to keep the United States Congress and the public informed.

Further, in collaboration with SSA, SSA OIG provides stakeholders and State disability determination services (DDS) with training programs, presentations, and outreach materials to help employees better identify potentially fraudulent claims activity and scams. SSA OIG, in collaboration with SSA, plans to lead and expand upon National Slam the Scam Day activities and efforts in FY 2027.

### *Section 1140 Education Outreach*

Section 1140 of the *Social Security Act* is a consumer protection law that prohibits misleading consumers by giving a false impression of association with, or authorization or endorsement by, the Social Security Administration through any type of communication. In FY 2027, SSA OIG will continue to perform Section 1140 outreach and education across industries and local communities by:

- Providing presentations and mailers to the telecommunications industry;
- Providing public libraries with targeted print materials and trainings;
- Educating law firms and disability representatives on how to avoid potential Section 1140 violations; and
- Engaging with Internet Service Providers who host IP addresses associated with malicious traffic.

### *Engaging with SSA and External Stakeholders*

SSA OIG proactively ensures the United States Congress is informed of SSA OIG’s audits, including findings of problems relating to the administration of SSA programs and operations, criminal investigations, resulting prosecutions, civil enforcement, public outreach, and education. SSA OIG also provides Congress with the Semiannual Report to Congress, Quarterly Scam Reports, bi-monthly SSA OIG investigative spotlights, and relevant news items. Further, SSA OIG participates in oversight hearings, briefs Congressional Staff, responds to inquiries from Members of Congress and Congressional Committees, and answers constituent inquiries. SSA OIG ensures the United States Congress is aware of pressing issues and addresses questions involving fraud, waste, and abuse at SSA and our oversight work.

SSA OIG also collaborates with the United States Attorney’s Offices and State and local prosecutors across the country to issue press releases through the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and other prosecutorial offices. This proactive outreach demonstrates to the American

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people SSA OIG's commitment to investigating Social Security fraud and publicizing consequences to criminal activity, thereby deterring potential fraudsters and criminals.

SSA OIG leadership continues to collaborate with SSA leadership through the National Anti-Fraud Committee (NAFC). The NAFC is a partnership between SSA and SSA OIG that supports strategies for combatting fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs and operations. The NAFC members, comprised of certain SSA and SSA OIG senior executives, meets quarterly to share information and create concrete steps for addressing Social Security fraud.

Since 2021, NAFC has hosted a multi-day annual summit, open to all SSA and SSA OIG subject matter experts. SSA and SSA OIG bring different perspectives to focus on the same goal: to fight and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse and promote the efficiency and effectiveness of agency programs and operations. The summit highlights challenges and elevates issues facing the agency to facilitate collaboration, foster solutions, and address issues and vulnerabilities within agency programs and operations. Following the annual summit, SSA and SSA OIG mutually agree on several discrete action items derived from the discussions and presentations during the summit.

### **Strategic Goal 2: Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs and operations**

SSA OIG's second strategic goal is to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs and operations. SSA OIG is responsible for protecting the integrity and efficiency of SSA's administration of approximately \$1.6 trillion in benefit payments annually to more than 70 million people.

During FY 2025, SSA OIG issued 44 audit reports with recommendations to improve SSA's programs and operations. During that same time, investigations conducted by SSA OIG resulted in 566 criminal convictions and contributed to over \$321 million in monetary accomplishments, which includes court-ordered restitution, recoveries, settlements, judgments, fines, civil and administrative actions, and estimated savings resulting from investigations.

### **Ensuring Stewardship of SSA Programs**

#### *Completing audits that ensure the accuracy of benefit payments*

In its FY 2025 Agency Financial Report, SSA estimated it made approximately \$3.9 billion in OASDI improper payments and \$7.3 billion in SSI improper payments in FY 2024. Of those, \$2.9 billion were OASDI overpayments and \$6.3 billion were SSI overpayments; \$975 million were OASDI underpayments and \$982 million were SSI underpayments.

The FY 2027 Budget will allow SSA OIG to continue to focus on stewardship by completing audits that ensure the correct person is paid and benefit payments are accurate by:

- Reviewing SSA controls to identify payments made to individuals who are not eligible for benefits and ensure the continued accuracy of payments;

- Reviewing SSA’s processes to ensure SSI and OASDI applicant claims are accurately and timely processed; and
- Evaluating processes such as work and earnings reporting that impact payment accuracy to identify the root cause of errors and challenges SSA faces in resolving overpayments.

Prior work in these areas has identified improper payments and internal control issues. For example, SSA OIG issued reports in December 2024, March 2025, and September 2025 that matched death information from New York City, Idaho, and New York State against SSA records. These reports estimated that SSA issued \$90 million, \$5.5 million, and \$33 million, respectively, in improper payments after beneficiaries’ deaths.

In addition, a [March 2025](#) report found that SSA’s rejection of approximately 702,000 state reports with valid death information resulted in over \$327 million in improper payments issued to approximately 16,000 beneficiaries after they died. SSA OIG also determined that improvements to SSA’s Death Information Processing System to increase automated processing of reports with valid death information would improve SSA’s administrative efficiency.

SSA OIG has several audits in process to ensure the accuracy of benefit payments including determining the accuracy of critical payments made to beneficiaries, determining whether student benefits were paid to eligible beneficiaries, and determining whether SSA properly resolved overpayments to individuals who received child benefits.

#### *Challenges recovering overpayments and SSI payment eligibility impacts*

For many years, SSA OIG audits have made recommendations to help ensure SSA collects overpayments timely and uses available tools to collect overpayments.<sup>1</sup> In addition, SSA OIG audit work helps identify some of the sources of such improper payments. In [February 2025](#), SSA OIG issued a report summarizing SSA’s documented causes for issuing OASDI and SSI overpayments in FYs 2020 through 2023. SSA OIG observed that without more automated data feeds, SSA will continue to require resources for assessing and pursuing the recovery of billions of dollars in overpayments.

SSA OIG has several audits in process to review SSA’s efforts to recover overpayments and ensure individuals remain eligible for benefits. SSA OIG is currently reviewing recovery efforts for deceased beneficiaries’ overpayments and Department of Treasury Reclamations. SSA OIG is also completing work to determine whether SSA conducted timely and accurate redeterminations to ensure recipients are still eligible for SSI payments and is reviewing SSI recipient’s vehicle ownership which could impact SSI eligibility and/or payment amounts.

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<sup>1</sup> See the following reports: Challenges in Recovering Supplemental Security Income Overpayments (A-07-21-51018); [Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance Overpayments Pending Collection](#) (A-02-15-35001); [Overpayments Not Collected Through Benefit Withholding](#) (A-07-18-50278); [Cross-program Recovery to Collect Overpayments](#) (A-13-15-15029); [Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance Debtors Who Were Not Current on an Installment Agreement](#) (A-04-18-50265); [Status of Title II Installment Agreements](#) (A-02-08-18074); [Supplemental Security Income Overpayments](#) (A-01-04-24022).

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### *Follow-up on prior audits and recommendations*

SSA OIG conducts follow-up audits to ensure action has been taken on recommendations to address improper payments and other significant problems within SSA. For example, in September 2025, SSA OIG issued [a report](#) to determine whether SSA correctly adjusted benefits for dually entitled children and spouses in accordance with the family maximum provisions as a follow up to a 2014 audit. Although SSA took actions to address our prior audit findings, employees continued to inaccurately compute the benefits for spouses and children who were entitled to benefits on multiple records. We estimated SSA improperly paid approximately \$114 million to spouses and children on 8,392 wage earners' records (36 percent).

In FY 2025, we began an audit to determine whether SSA's corrective actions in response to our [prior audit](#) recommendations effectively improved its monitoring and collection of court-ordered restitutions. Also in FY 2025, we began an audit to follow-up on [prior recommendations](#) related to capturing the average cost to collect overpayments and determine whether there are actions SSA could take to improve the processing of low-dollar overpayments.

### *Identify and prevent improper payments*

SSA OIG continues to oversee the SSI and OASDI programs through its audit work. Each quarter, our Audit Work Plans include several audits we plan to begin related to improper payments. In addition, Offices of Inspectors General are required to review their respective agencies' improper payments and high-dollar overpayment reporting requirements. In [May 2025](#), SSA OIG issued a report on SSA's FY 2024 compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA). In FY 2024, SSA complied with eight PIIA reporting requirements, but SSA did not comply with two PIIA reporting requirements when it failed to (1) demonstrate improvements to payment integrity or reach a tolerable improper payment and unknown payment rate for the SSI and OASDI programs, and (2) report an improper payment and underpayment estimate of less than 10 percent for the SSI program.

SSA must be a responsible steward of the funds entrusted to its care by minimizing the risk of making improper payments and recovering overpayments when they occur. Preventing improper payments is more advantageous than recovering them because the agency must expend additional resources to recover the overpayments or process additional payments to rectify underpayments. SSA OIG continues to prioritize audit work that will help SSA identify and prevent improper payments. For example, SSA OIG has work in process to determine whether SSA developed earnings alerts for SSI recipients. SSA OIG plans to evaluate SSA's controls for processing earning alerts to determine whether they were appropriately designed to ensure timely processing and to prevent improper payments.

## **Detecting and Preventing Social Security Disability Fraud**

### *CDI Program*

In addition to the request for \$114.7 million for direct base appropriations, the FY 2027 Budget

requests SSA transfer \$25.1 million from SSA’s program integrity adjustment, which funds the CDI Program, to the SSA OIG for the SSA OIG’s costs of leading the jointly operated anti-fraud CDI Program. This funding level represents an increase of \$500,000 over the FY 2026 enacted level of \$24.6 million, allowing us to fully fund our current CDI operational needs and provide additional support for our CDI units.

The CDI Program is an anti-fraud initiative that promotes the integrity of SSA’s disability programs. The CDI Program accomplishes its mission, in part, by closely examining questionable disability claims to stop payment before disability fraud occurs. The program also conducts criminal investigations of in-pay beneficiaries suspected of committing disability fraud, as individuals may have feigned physical impairments, concealed work activity, or failed to report other benefits or earnings to receive disability benefits they are not entitled to receive. In all cases, a CDI unit obtains factual evidence sufficient to resolve questions of fraud and abuse in SSA’s disability programs. Each CDI unit consists of an SSA OIG special agent who serves as a team leader, and personnel from SSA, State DDS, and State or local law enforcement partners. CDI units combine Federal and State resources and expertise to benefit not only Social Security programs, but also other Federal and State programs, such as food and nutrition assistance, housing assistance, Medicare, and Medicaid. Since the program’s inception, CDI investigations have contributed to a projected savings to taxpayers of more than \$8.4 billion. Accomplishments of the CDI Program include the following:

Category	October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024	October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025
Disability claims denied or ceased	1,188	1,444
Projected savings for SSA programs	\$80.6 million	\$99 million
Projected recoveries for SSA programs	\$15.5 million	\$24.5 million
Projected savings for non-SSA programs	\$101.6 million	\$111.6 million

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 mandated CDI coverage to all 50 states and U.S. territories by October 2022, subject to law enforcement availability. At that time, the program consisted of 27 units covering just 24 states and Puerto Rico. Achieving the coverage mandate by 2022 meant we needed to double the size of the program. Today, 50 CDI units cover all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and all U.S. territories.

SSA OIG is committed to the success of the CDI Program by increasing oversight and improving operations through dedicated leadership and management. Given the significant and rapid expansion of the CDI program to meet statutory mandates, SSA OIG requires 73 employees to provide national investigative oversight of the CDI Program and meet the operational demands of the nationwide coverage. During FY 2026, SSA OIG was approved to fill all 73 positions and is working to increase staffing to this level from the 55 employees on board in January 2026. Despite SSA reimbursing law enforcement partner costs, as of January 2026, 20 CDI units are operating without a law enforcement partner. Operating CDI units without full partner participation threatens the success and impact of this critical program integrity initiative by decreasing investigative capacity and delaying timely disability determinations. Despite direct outreach to State governors by the Commissioner of SSA and the Inspector General, no new partners were acquired. During FY 2026, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) approved

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the use and hiring of up to 40 rehired annuitants to supplement CDI units without a state law enforcement partner. We will cover increases to CDI operational and personnel costs associated with these new positions with funds that would otherwise be paid to state partners.

### Legal Oversight: Enforcing the Social Security Act

#### *Combatting Section 1140 violations*

SSA OIG combats Section 1140 violations involving imposter websites, emails, telephone solicitations, U.S. mail, radio, television, Internet broadcasts, app stores, and social media platforms through education and enforcement. SSA OIG educates businesses and individuals, assists entities and individuals in understanding and complying with Section 1140, and, as appropriate, takes civil enforcement and/or other corrective action, against entities operating in violation of Section 1140. This work protects the public from being misled about their rights to benefits, ensure those Social Security benefits obtained improperly are returned to the Social Security Trust Funds, and that the tax-payer dollars inappropriately used to process improper claims are recovered. The return of monies to the Trust Funds and General Treasury protects the public's rights to Social Security benefits.

In FY 2027, SSA OIG will continue to issue take-down requests for fraud and imposter websites and social media pages that violate Section 1140. SSA OIG will pursue entities that send misleading mailers, call centers and corporations that engage in fraudulent or misleading phone campaigns, and telecommunications companies that transit Social Security-related scam calls into the country from overseas. Further, due to the increase in AI-related fraud scams, like generative AI and voice cloning, SSA OIG will continue utilizing data collected on AI-enabled Section 1140 violations and investigate actions in these matters as warranted.

### **Strategic Goal 3: Optimize operations**

SSA OIG's third strategic goal is to optimize operations through five key initiatives: (1) intragovernmental collaboration; (2) modernizing information technology systems; (3) data analytics; (4) cybersecurity; and (5) cost-saving efforts.

#### **Intragovernmental Collaboration**

##### *DOJ, Civil Division, and other Federal Law Enforcement Agencies on Imposter Scams and Elder Justice Initiatives*

SSA OIG continues to collaborate with other federal agencies in the fight against fraud in SSA programs and operations. SSA OIG is an active member of the U.S. Department of Justice Elder Justice Initiative, which brings together and facilitates coordination among numerous State, local, and Federal entities with capabilities and authority to fight elder fraud and elder abuse. SSA OIG is also involved with several regulatory agencies in the fight against SSA-related fraud, chiefly the FTC, and an anti-fraud working group formed by the Federal Communications Commission to combat phone scams.

SSA OIG is also enhancing its analytical capabilities to identify clusters of direct deposit fraud by leveraging data from three primary sources: the Social Security Administration, SSA OIG's Case Management System, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Fiscal Services (BFS). SSA OIG developed a predictive analysis tool that acquires transactional data from the SSA's Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) for all recent direct deposit changes and then queries our case management system to search for any allegations of fraud associated to those accounts. SSA OIG can further corroborate suspicion of fraudulent bank account changes by obtaining data from BFS. SSA OIG then sends any suspicious accounts associated with prior reports of fraud to the SSA's Program Integrity, Risk, and Fraud Prevention staff to revert the bank account changes and proactively stop fraudulent payments before they happen. This predictive tool protects the unknowing victims of this fraud from not receiving their benefits in a timely manner and saves the SSA thousands of dollars in repayments while simultaneously eliminating administrative workloads associated with recovering lost funds and making the victims whole.

This comprehensive approach enhances our ability to detect and prevent fraudulent activities, optimize resources, and improve the accuracy of fraud detection. By integrating data from multiple sources and using advanced analytical tools, SSA OIG ensures a more effective and efficient response to combating direct deposit fraud.

#### *Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Committees*

SSA OIG also participates in committees, subcommittees, and workgroups of the CIGIE, including the CIGIE Legislation Committee, CIGIE Professional Development Committee, CIGIE Chief Information Officer (CIO) Council, CIGIE Cybersecurity Workgroup and other CIGIE committees, subcommittees and workgroups, relating to investigations, improper payments, training, and artificial intelligence, among others. These partnerships facilitate collaboration within the Inspectors General community to share best practices, training, and professional development opportunities. The SSA OIG has assigned a senior leader to serve as the chairperson of the investigations technology subcommittee and other senior leaders serve on policy and training subcommittees. SSA OIG will continue to pursue new partnerships and collaborations strategically and proactively in FY 2027.

#### *Law Enforcement Collaboration*

SSA OIG proactively shares data, information, and optimal approach with partner organizations to support a government-wide approach to combatting fraud and protecting American citizens. In June 2021, SSA OIG began sharing information collected via its online imposter scam complaint form with the FTC's Consumer Sentinel Network. SSA OIG also shares reports of COVID-19 pandemic-related unemployment insurance fraud with the U.S. Department of Labor OIG. This year the SSA OIG permanently assigned our most senior intelligence analysts to HSI's Cross Border Financial Crime Center. Additionally, we have approximately 42 special agents assigned to other task forces related to national security and immigration enforcement including HSI's Document and Benefit Task Forces, the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF).

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SSA OIG regularly collaborates with the FBI and HSI to combat transnational human trafficking. In one case, a Venezuelan national illegally entered the U.S. and led a smuggling operation that brought over 100 South American migrants across the border, financed their travel, and provided false identification for employment. He required migrants to give up half their wages. After pleading guilty to multiple charges, he was sentenced to 36 months in prison and ordered to pay \$20,560 to the victims.

SSA OIG and HSI investigated a former Brazilian military police officer who falsified U.S. immigration documents. The officer, involved in a 2015 mass killing in Brazil, lied on his 2017 U.S. visa application and subsequent documents, concealing his criminal charges. He entered the U.S. in 2018, obtained various state-issued documents, including a Social Security card, and falsely claimed no criminal history when applying for asylum in 2020. Convicted in Brazil in 2023 for murder and torture, he admitted to perjury during a 2024 U.S. immigration hearing and was sentenced to 16 months in federal prison, with deportation to follow.

SSA OIG frequently collaborates with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service to investigate large-scale identity fraud. In one case, a Mexican national in Kentucky conspired to create and distribute over 100 sets of fake identification documents, including Social Security cards, using stolen personal information, coordinating via social media and text messaging. He mailed and hand-delivered these documents to recipients in multiple states, receiving over \$233,000 in payments. The fraudulent IDs were used to obtain employment and services unlawfully. After being arrested in July 2024, he plead guilty and was sentenced to 54 months in prison and three years of supervised release.

### **Modernizing Information Technology Systems**

In accordance with the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, the SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG) relies on the Social Security Administration (SSA) to furnish suitable and sufficient office space at both central and field locations. This includes providing the necessary equipment, office supplies, and communication facilities and services required for OIG operations (5 U.S.C. § 406(d)). Additionally, SSA OIG depends on SSA to deliver essential maintenance services for the offices, equipment, and facilities supplied.

While SSA OIG depends on SSA to provide general enterprise software and hardware, the dedicated no-year funding allows SSA OIG to focus on modernizing and transforming applications that support our mission under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended. In FY 2026, dedicated funding for IT modernization is critical to advancing our enterprise suite of applications. These enhancements are aligned with Presidential Priorities and Executive Orders, ensuring SSA OIG remains compliant with federal mandates and responsive to evolving mission needs.

SSA OIG is actively implementing significant improvements to the investigative case management system. These upgrades are designed to substantially increase efficiency, enhance user experience, and improve reporting capabilities within our investigative processes, directly supporting our core mission and enabling more effective case resolution.

In FY 2025, the investigative case management system was updated to support the collection of National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data in accordance with FBI standards and regulations, resulting in SSA OIG achieving NIBRS certification. In FY 2026, we are implementing system enhancements to capture data that aligns with Administration priorities, such as adding new project codes for immigration-related efforts. We will begin submitting data to the FBI through a fully automated process that regularly extracts data from the investigative case management system, generates the required Extensible Markup Language (XML) file per NIBRS standards, and submits the data using the FBI's established protocols. Additionally, we will implement enhancements in accordance with Executive Order 14218, enabling SSA OIG to review and confirm relevant data sets associated with referrals for individuals over age 100 with earnings where the Social Security Number (SSN) does not match the Personally Identifiable Information (PII) of the true Number Holder.

In FY 2025, SSA OIG initiated the migration of our on-premise enterprise applications to a cloud-based environment. FY 2026 will focus on completing the migration to a modern, containerized cloud infrastructure which is critical for optimizing security, performance, agility and scalability across our enterprise application portfolio. By leveraging cloud technologies, SSA OIG will ensure the continued support of our applications, while enabling dependable and accurate information storage and processing for our mission-critical investigative priorities.

SSA OIG is required by law to maintain a public-facing website. In FY 2026 we implemented enhancements to improve the overall user experience, increase accessibility, and support more accurate data collection. This includes adding language updates and enabling new features for filtering audit reports and other information. In FY 2027, SSA OIG will continue to enhance the web forms used by the public to report alleged fraud and imposter scams. These enhancements will streamline the intake process and will empower the public to engage more effectively with our investigative operations, thereby strengthening our ability to detect and address fraudulent activities.

In FY 2025, to further improve operational efficiency, SSA OIG delivered key enhancements to our self-service tools such as FBI missing person's identity and location, direct deposit activity, and the Law Enforcement Verification System. Self-service tools allow data access to support SSA OIG workloads. In 2026, SSA OIG will implement an automated logistics and facilities service request solution to reduce administrative burden, minimize errors, and accelerate service delivery to internal stakeholders. In FY 2027, SSA OIG will implement a new electronic case management system for SSA OIG attorneys to modernize legal case tracking, improve collaboration, and ensure more efficient management of legal workflows.

SSA OIG continues to implement technological advancements such as natural language processing (NLP) to ensure we are focusing on allegations that require us to act. NLP auto-closes allegations not requiring action based on predefined criteria. For example, NLP will auto-close allegations that are not an SSA issue. Incorporating NLP has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of allegations for manual review. In FY 2025, NLP sorted 51 percent of all submitted allegations, with 25 percent auto closed. To ensure accuracy, 21 percent of auto-closed cases were manually checked, and the system was found to be correct 99 percent of the

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time. This technology has greatly reduced the need for manual review, and our agile approach allows us to continually improve the process and add new topics to the system.

As we continue to invest in IT modernization and advance our capabilities, it is imperative that we also make investments in employee technical trainings that will provide our IT staff with a broader spectrum of tools and enhance their skills in low code/no code platforms, and skills in cloud capabilities to effectively transition and use these emerging technologies. Enhancing skills in cloud capabilities and artificial intelligence is essential for our transition to modern IT infrastructures and ensure our IT staff can effectively manage and optimize cloud resources, implement best practices, and safeguard our data. As technology evolves, investing in ongoing education not only enhances the capabilities of our IT staff, but also positions our organization to remain competitive and responsive to future challenges.

### Data Analytics

The SSA OIG is continually expanding its data objects to ensure that reporting data remains accessible as enterprise applications are enhanced. These data objects deliver refined and reconciled information, enabling real-time ad hoc data requests and improving the efficiency of mission-critical business intelligence reporting. For instance, in FY 2025, performance metrics were made available to support the preliminary assessment phase within the investigative case management system. Additionally, by utilizing data from the Time Module application, we plan to streamline the Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP) certification process.<sup>1</sup>

In FY 2025, substantial improvements were made to business intelligence data for the Office of Investigation. Looking ahead to FY 2026 and FY 2027, our focus will shift to enhancing business intelligence data for auditors, as well as introducing performance metrics for new workload management tools. These enhancements will also introduce advanced data drill-down and filtering capabilities, allowing SSA OIG to utilize data more effectively and efficiently. This supports the President's directives on employee accountability.

During FY 2025, SSA OIG developed an initial set of index files, which provide raw data snapshots without compromising live production data, for seven major SSA data streams used by auditors and investigators. Going forward, we will collaborate with auditors and investigators to further expand the index file portfolio.

### Cybersecurity

As cyber threats evolve, SSA OIG must continue to enhance the security posture of our enterprise applications and develop staff skillsets. In FY 2025, we enhanced SSA OIG's account management processes, demonstrating a commitment to achieve a zero-trust architecture and ensuring least-privileged access to OIG's enterprise applications and data. In FY 2026 and onward, we will continue to improve the efficiency and accuracy of our log analysis processes through automation which will enable us to identify potential security threats more quickly, reduce manual workload for staff, and ensure compliance with federal cybersecurity standards.

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<sup>1</sup> To satisfy the requirements of Title 5 CFR § 550.184(b), the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations shall make an annual certification to the Inspector General attesting that the investigator currently meets, and is expected to continue to meet LEAP requirements during the upcoming Law Enforcement Availability Pay Year

These enhancements will also support proactive monitoring and timely incident response, ultimately strengthening our overall security posture.

SSA OIG continues to facilitate intercomponent coordination, education, and exchange of cyber efforts through the SSA OIG Cybersecurity Workgroup. As cyber threats evolve, SSA OIG continues to remediate security vulnerabilities and manage security assessment activities to ensure continued compliance with Federal regulations and agency policy.

In addition, audit reviews of SSA OIG's IT systems are conducted per the standards of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) of 2014. The evaluation and effectiveness of SSA's information security program is based on the prescribed IG FISMA Reporting Metrics. Evaluation includes testing the effectiveness of information security policies, procedures, and practices of some of SSA's information systems. We will continue to ensure SSA OIG's IT systems are FISMA compliant and maintain an active Authority to Operate (ATO) in accordance with agency policies and security requirements.

SSA OIG continues to be a contributing member of the SSA Insider Threat Hub, providing valuable cyber and investigative expertise during inquiries of mutual interest and protecting the American people from emerging threats.

### **Return to Office (RTO)**

As of January 2026, SSA OIG is in full compliance with RTO policies, with 100 percent of employees who are not exempt from RTO requirements working fully in office. SSA OIG will utilize a combination of current methods and planned enhancements to maintain and verify compliance with RTO policies.

### **Cost-saving Efforts**

SSA OIG remains committed to maximizing its resources through various cost-saving measures, including analyzing options to utilize space efficiently and reducing unnecessary spending.

In FY 2026, SSA OIG will continue to collaborate with SSA to identify unused space that SSA OIG may occupy as leases expire. Several employees are currently located in SSA field offices, hearing Offices, and other federal agencies nationwide to minimize the cost of maintaining SSA OIG-specific space. We are also working to collocate OI and CDI offices, which will reduce both our footprint and rent costs for SSA OIG and SSA. SSA OIG will continue to review properties across the country and work with SSA to identify opportunities for space reductions.

As it relates to the President's Management Agenda to optimize Federal Real Estate, SSA OIG has identified preliminary steps to relocate OIG and CDI employees in the Frank Hagel Federal Building in Richmond, CA. This initiative is in accordance with the General Services Administration's list of assets identified for accelerated disposition.

## **Strategic Goal 4: Strengthen our workforce**

SSA OIG's fourth strategic goal is to strengthen our workforce and align the organizational structure within the priorities of President Trump's Administration and our statutory obligations. SSA OIG is committed to an innovative and agile organization by attracting, developing, and retaining a high-performing workforce and providing them the resources to maximize their individual potential and improve operations. In FY 2025, SSA OIG conducted a comprehensive top-down review of our operations, staffing, and performance needs to further maximize our ability to efficiently accomplish our statutory mission. We developed a data-driven workforce plan that prioritized critical hiring in areas of greatest need in accordance with mandates set forth in Executive Orders and other directives and guidance. In December 2025, SSA OIG submitted to OPM our Annual Staffing Plan that projects our critical hiring needs throughout FY 2026 in accordance with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and OPM Memorandum, "[Guidance on Executive Order 14356 Ensuring Continued Accountability in Federal Hiring](#)".

- **Cooperative Disability Investigations (CDI) program**

The CDI program is a key anti-fraud initiative that combats fraud within SSA's disability programs. The program establishes task force units under the direction of a GS-1811-13 Special Agent/Team Leader from the SSA OIG. This initiative pairs disability experts from the SSA and state disability determination agencies with law enforcement officials from the SSA OIG and state or local law enforcement partners, who work together within each of these CDI units. CDI investigations target those individuals involved in stealing or otherwise defrauding the limited funds of SSA that are intended to provide financial support to some of the country's most vulnerable citizens. Since the inception of the program in 1998, CDI investigations saved billions in taxpayer money.

Through the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, Public Law 114-74, Section 811, Congress required nationwide coverage of the CDI program. Today, 50 CDI units cover each of the 50 states and U.S. territories, each led by an SSA OIG Special Agent/Team Leader. Due to employee separations prior to and during the FY 2025 hiring freeze, 20 percent of the CDI units are currently operating without an SSA OIG Special Agent/Team Leader, and many of those units also no longer have a current law enforcement partner. As a result, these statutorily required CDI units are inoperable or have a severely diminished investigative capacity. Through April of this fiscal year, the CDI program opened over 1,000 criminal investigations, achieved over \$52 million in projected savings, and \$13.6 million in projected recoveries for SSA's disability programs. Given this volume, consolidating units or having one unit cover multiple states would be untenable to meet the statutory requirements of the CDI program. There are also further state border jurisdiction limitations of our state and local partners, adding additional challenges.

The SSA OIG is actively working to fill 18 vacant positions in the CDI program with plans to onboard these hires in FY 2026. The recruitment pool to fill these critical positions will come from experienced special agents currently assigned to, or displaced from, other law enforcement agencies within the Federal government, and thus will not create new government positions. The FY 2026 enacted level supports fully funding SSA

OIG's cost of \$24.6 million to operate the federally mandated CDI units.

### Senior Executive Services

SSA OIG is actively working to recruit and onboard the following SES positions in FY 2026: Chief Counsel to the Inspector General, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, and Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit. At the end of FY 2026, all SES vacancies will be reviewed to determine recruitment needs for FY 2027.

- **Chief Counsel to the Inspector General (CCIG)**

The CCIG serves as the Counsel to the Inspector General, providing executive leadership and independent authoritative legal advice, guidance, interpretations, and recommendations to Executives and senior staff on all general law issues and significant matters concerning the OIG's powers and responsibilities under various statutes, regulations, executive orders, and proclamations that affect its oversight responsibilities, business activities, and administrative management of operations.

The CCIG also provides expert legal advice to the IG/First Assistant and senior staff on matters arising in connection with the work of the OIG's Offices of Audit and Investigations, and on general law matters, including but not limited to: the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, and related authorities; Federal fiscal law; Federal employment and personnel law; administrative law; contracts; Federal procurement law; Federal information laws; Federal ethics obligations; eDiscovery; and criminal procedure.

Additionally, the CCIG, provides executive leadership and supervision over a comprehensive litigation program and staff for the OIG, including the development, coordination, and direction of general law (as defined above) litigation and the supervision of staff engaged in all aspects of general law litigation.

- **Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Investigations (DAIGI)**

The IG Act requires the appointment of an AIGI who is responsible for supervising the performance of investigative activities. The organizational structure of OI's required level of oversight is determined by the complexity and volume of investigative activities at the core of OI's mission. To assist the AIGI with this responsibility, OI has a Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Investigations (DAIGI) for Cooperative Disability Investigations (CDI) Operations, a DAIGI for Field Operations, a DAIGI for Headquarters Operations and a Chief Investigative Counsel (CIC). The sustained investigative success of OI has been achieved by having executive-level leadership over each operational component who can implement the Office of Investigation's (OI) strategic plan and manage performance necessary to fulfill mission critical requirements. These executives are also responsible for identifying and implementing and managing shifts in priorities due to emerging fraud schemes or changes in Administration initiatives.

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Currently, OI manages its investigative portfolio with a DAIGI for Field Operations and a DAIGI for CDI Operations, both of which are executive-level positions. This structure was established in part because of the Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2015, which required CDI coverage in all 50 states and U.S. territories by October 1, 2022. As the CDI Program continued to expand, so did OI's overall level of work, staff, and responsibility.

In January 2021, SSA OIG received approval from OPM for an additional OI senior executive service position to oversee the CDI Program. The DAIGI for CDI Operations position was responsible for developing and implementing a strategic plan for expansion and compliance with the BBA of 2015. Once expansion was completed, the DAIGI for CDI Operations assumed oversight responsibility for investigations solely involving disability fraud being conducted by 50 CDI units across the country with over 250 dedicated investigative and support staff. The DAIGI for Field Operations retained responsibility for the full range of OI Investigative casework that includes programmatic fraud, Social Security number misuse, national security, immigration enforcement, employee misconduct and threats against SSA employees and facilities.

In FY 2025, OI received over 300,000 allegations. Further, on April 15, 2025, the President, through the Presidential Memorandum entitled Preventing Illegal Aliens from Obtaining Social Security Benefits, emphasized that "taxpayer-funded benefits be provided only to eligible persons and that they do not encourage or reward illegal immigration to the United States." To that end, the President directed the SSA to take certain measures aimed at penalizing Social Security fraud and preventing illegal aliens from obtaining Social Security benefits. For example, SSA is required to place Special Assistant United States Attorneys (SAUSA) in at least 50 United States Attorney Offices by October 1, 2025, including the ten jurisdictions with the largest known populations of illegal aliens. SSA was also directed to resume pursuing civil monetary penalties (CMP) under section 1129 of the Social Security Act or pursue regulation that would allow for its timely resumption.

Filling the DAIGI for Field Operations will help achieve the President's directives by ensuring illegal aliens and others looking to exploit Social Security programs are not fraudulently collecting disability benefits. The position will also provide leadership in OI's continued fight against fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs, internal misconduct, and support a workload stream for the newly assigned SAUSAs and the CMP program.

- **Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit (DAIGA)**

The SSA OIG has an enormous responsibility and mission to protect taxpayer dollars from fraud, waste and abuse. In 2027, SSA estimates an average of over 77 million Americans per month will receive a benefit payment, totaling about \$1.8 trillion in benefits paid during the year. In addition, SSA estimated that in 2023, it had over \$10 billion in improper payments. The Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audits and

Evaluations (DAIGA) is responsible for directing oversight and evaluation of SSA's audits. The SSA OIG Office of Audit is critical in identifying efficiency and effectiveness within SSA's programs, operations and management. The DAIGA provides technical guidance and direction to multiple divisions in determining the highest priority reviews that divisions should conduct and ensures the efforts identify the root cause to problems identified and provides actionable recommendations that address the causes. The work that the DAIGA oversees is critical to both the OIG mission and helps SSA reduce improper payments and improve operations. In a given year, the DAIGA oversees roughly 40 plus audit or evaluation projects at different stages of the process. This oversight is critical in ensuring teams produce quality products. On average, each audit or evaluation that the SSA OIG Office of Audit conducts identifies roughly \$13 million in dollar savings or efficiencies in how SSA operates as an organization. The DAIGA is a crucial position in ensuring this work continues in supporting SSA's efforts to improve how it administers its programs and runs agency operations.

## Employee Performance and Development

To ensure an efficient and merit-based workforce, SSA OIG revamped and modernized our hiring process in compliance with the following Executive Orders:

- Executive Order 14170: [Reforming The Federal Hiring Process And Restoring Merit To Government Service](#)
- Executive Order 14173: [Ending Illegal Discrimination And Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity](#)

In FY 2025, SSA OIG prioritized increasing productivity and accountability by enhancing our performance management system for FY 2026 and forward with measurable performance goals and metrics to prevent rating inflation and accurately evaluating performance based on job-related criteria; to promote an awards process that recognizes excellent and outstanding performance; and to process disciplinary personnel actions of poor performers more effectively in accordance with the following Executive Orders and Presidential Memorandums:

- Executive Order 14120: [Implementing The President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Workforce Optimization Initiative](#)
- Presidential Memorandum: [Performance Management for Federal Employees](#)
- Presidential Memorandum: [Restoring Accountability for Career Senior Executives](#)

In accordance with OPM updated federal guidance, SSA OIG has updated and shared with our supervisors and managers, the OPM templates related to employees serving a probationary or trial period in accordance with the following Executive Order and OPM guidance:

- Executive Order 14284: [Strengthening Probationary Periods in the Federal Service](#)
- [Updated Guidance on President Trump's Executive Order Strengthening Probationary Periods in the Federal Service](#)

Additionally, SSA OIG provided our supervisor, management, and human resources workforce with performance-management training and have committed to providing our supervisor and management workforce with a series of quarterly (performance management, administrative, and

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budget) trainings in FY 2026 to enhance knowledge, awareness, customer service, and maintain a workforce capable of providing government efficiency and effectiveness while responding to future demands. SSA OIG leadership continues to empower its managers to consider and approve job-specific trainings and programs that will increase employee knowledge, skills, and abilities to help them carry out their assigned roles and responsibilities. Our SES cadre is in full compliance with the OPM [Senior Executive Development Program \(SEDP\)](#). We have also established internal competitive criteria for GS-14 and GS-15 personnel to be selected for the Leadership for an Efficient and Accountable Government (LEAG) program.

### *SSA OIG 1811 Training Programs:*

As fraudsters become more sophisticated in their tactics, training of SSA OIG's Federal agents is vital, not just for the quality of our investigations, but also for officer and public safety. Proper training allows SSA OIG agents to build strong capabilities to leverage technology, adapt to new techniques and tools, and to respond timely to emerging fraud schemes, such as imposter scams, potential threats posed by AI, and direct-deposit fraud to protect the American public.

SSA OIG is responsible for investigating threats and assaults against SSA employees, visitors, and facilities. This includes potentially responding to active shooter or threat situations. SSA OIG's FY 2027 budget request includes funding for an active shooter training initiative to provide the best research-based active shooter response training in the nation. In addition, in FY 2027, SSA OIG will continue funding new agent training, new manager trainings, fraudulent document recognition, and tactical medical trainings for an estimated 240 special agents.

## Recruitment Efforts

SSA OIG is committed to fulfilling our statutory responsibilities by retaining and recruiting staff that enables our workforce to meet the demand for independent, high-quality oversight. For our components performing statutory obligations related to investigations, law enforcement, and audit work, the Offices of Investigations and Audit requires a certain level of staffing to maintain our current productivity levels and mandated workloads. SSA OIG developed a data-driven hiring plan prioritizing recruitment of positions and received Direct Hiring Authority from OPM through January 20, 2029, for efficient hiring and on-boarding for our OI positions that supports Executive actions addressing crime prevention, punishing criminals, preservation of law and order, and other national priorities. Recruiting efforts and hiring practices will be based on merit, practical skill, and dedication to our constitutional values. Our recruitment efforts are focused on the following principles in accordance with [Executive Order 14170: Reforming the Federal Hiring Process And Restoring Merit To Government Service](#):

- Decrease government-wide time-to-hire to under 80 days;
- Improve communication with candidates to provide greater clarity regarding application status, timelines, and feedback, including regular updates on the progress of applications and explanations of hiring decisions where appropriate;
- Integrate modern technology to support the recruitment and selection process, including the use of data analytics to identify trends, gaps, and opportunities in hiring, as well as leveraging digital platforms to improve candidate engagement;

- Create and sustain empowered agency Talent Teams to enable strategic recruitment and innovative hiring actions, including the use of assessments, pooled hiring via shared certificated within and between agencies, subject matter expert (SME) led resume and interview evaluations, and incorporating agency leadership interviews and sign-off as part of the hiring process;
- Leverage Pathways Program custom USAJOBS postings to support target recruitment of students, recent graduates, and other early career talent;
- Use the USAJOBS Agency Talent Portal and USA Staffing Candidate Inventory to ensure hiring managers have innovative talent acquisition tools to access searchable resumes, talent pools talent programs, and candidate inventories; and
- Implement technical or alternative assessments in the federal hiring process (as stated in Section C of the OPM’s Merit Hiring Plan). SSA OIG partnered with the OPM HR Solutions/Center for Assessment & Evaluation on a multi-year process to create custom technical assessments for 1811 Criminal Investigator positions at the GS-7 through GS-13 levels. These customized technical assessments specific to 1811 positions at SSA OIG include a Structured Portfolio Assessment, a Situational Judgment Test, a Structured Interview, and a Writing Assessment, all of which comply with Executive Order 14170’s mandate to ensure hiring is based solely on merit, qualifications and job-related criteria.

**BUDGETARY RESOURCES**

The SSA OIG annual appropriation consists of appropriations from both the general fund and the trust funds. The President’s Budget for FY 2027 consists of \$32,000,000 appropriated from the general fund, and \$82,665,000, which will be transferred and expended as authorized by Section 201(g) (1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund. The table below displays budget authority, split by type of funding, and obligations.

**Table 4.2—OIG Budget Authority and Amounts Available for Obligation**

	<b>FY 2025 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2026 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2027 President's Budget</b>	<b>FY26 to FY27 Change</b>
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FTE	473	455	473	18
General Fund Appropriation	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$0
Trust Fund Appropriation	\$82,665,000	\$82,665,000	\$82,665,000	\$0
<b>Subtotal<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$114,665,000</b>	<b>\$114,665,000</b>	<b>\$114,665,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
No-Year Carryover (IT Mod)	\$543,180	\$850,000	\$1,350,000	(\$500,000)
Program Integrity Transfer <sup>2</sup>	\$15,100,000	\$24,600,000	\$25,100,000	\$500,000
Program Integrity Carryover <sup>3</sup>	\$0	\$0	\$3,406,000	\$3,406,000
<b>Total Authority:</b>	<b>\$130,308,180</b>	<b>\$140,115,000</b>	<b>\$144,521,000</b>	<b>\$3,406,000</b>
Total Obligation <sup>4</sup>	\$128,861,330	\$135,359,000	\$138,214,680	\$2,855,680
Unobligated balance lapsing	\$596,850	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Table 4.3—Explanation of OIG Budget Changes**

	FY 2026		FY 2027		Change	
	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources
<b><u>BUILT-IN INCREASES</u></b>						
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>\$111,180,200</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>\$111,180,200</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$0</b>
• Change in base payroll expenses related to career ladder promotions and within-grade increases				\$778,300		\$778,300
• Change in base expenses for employee benefits including health benefits and new employees hired under the Federal Retirement Employees System				\$333,500		\$333,500

<sup>1</sup> Of the amount, \$2 million is available for IT Modernization in each year.

<sup>2</sup> P.L. 119-4 allowed SSA to transfer \$15.1 million in FY 2025 from the LAE account to the OIG for the costs associated with jointly operated CDI units. P.L. 119-75 allows SSA to transfer up to \$24.6 million in FY 2026 from the LAE account to the OIG for the cost associated with jointly operated CDI units. FY 2027 estimates reflect a transfer of up to \$25.1 million, as reflected in the FY 2027 President’s Budget.

<sup>3</sup> SSA OIG’s PI adjustment is an 18-month account. The carryover represents the unobligated funds that will be obligated within the first six months of the following fiscal year.

<sup>4</sup> Total Obligations for IT Modernization include \$1.7 million in FY 2025, \$1.5 million in FY 2026 and \$1.6 million in FY 2027.

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	FY 2026		FY 2027		Change	
	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources
<b>Non-Payroll Costs -</b> All other built-in non-payroll changes, travel management support and equipment						\$0
<b>Rent</b>		\$4,356,800		\$4,397,400		\$40,600
<b>Subtotal, Built-in increases</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>\$115,537,000</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>\$116,689,400</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$1,152,400</b>
<b><u>PROGRAM INCREASES</u></b>						
<b>Payroll Increase - Net Increase in OIG WYs</b>				\$4,062,000	0	\$4,062,000
<b>Subtotal, Program Increases</b>			0	\$4,062,000	0	\$4,062,000
<b>Total Increases</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>\$115,537,000</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>\$120,751,400</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$5,214,400</b>
	FY 2026		FY 2027		Change	
	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources
<b><u>BUILT-IN DECREASES</u></b>						
<b>Base Payroll Expenses—Decrease in all other payroll costs</b>						
<b>Non-Payroll Costs</b>		\$19,822,000		\$17,463,500		(\$2,358,500)
<b>Rent</b>						
<b>Subtotal, Built-in decreases</b>	0	\$19,822,000	0	\$17,463,500	0	(\$2,358,500)
<b><u>PROGRAM DECREASES</u></b>						
<b>Decrease in costs for training, other support, services, and supplies</b>						
<b>Subtotal, Program Decreases</b>	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Total Decreases</b>	0	\$19,822,000	0	\$17,463,500	0	(\$2,358,500)
<b>Net Change</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>\$135,359,000</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>\$138,214,900</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$2,855,900</b>

**Table 4.4—Budget Resources by Object**

	<b>FY 2025 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2026 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2027 President's Budget</b>	<b>FY26 to FY27 Change</b>
Full-time permanent	\$78,889,400	\$77,826,200	\$81,122,900	\$3,296,700
Other than full-time permanent				
Other compensation				
Subtotal, Personnel Compensation	\$78,889,400	\$77,826,200	\$81,122,900	\$3,296,700
Civilian personnel benefits	\$33,800,900	\$33,354,000	\$35,231,000	\$1,877,000
Total, Compensation and Benefits	\$112,690,300	\$111,180,200	\$116,353,900	\$5,173,700
Travel	\$2,517,000	\$2,550,300	\$2,947,500	\$397,200
Transportation of things	\$104,000	\$69,400	\$76,000	\$6,600
Rental payments to GSA	\$3,636,000	\$3,885,000	\$3,943,300	58,300
Rental payments to others	\$117,800	\$137,000	\$131,600	(\$5,500)
Communications, utilities, and others	\$231,100	\$334,300	\$321,600	(\$12,700)
Printing and reproduction	\$1,000	\$9,000	\$4,900	(\$4,100)
Other services	\$5,408,100	\$15,113,100	\$12,313,700	(\$2,799,200)
Supplies and materials	\$501,500	\$131,600	\$113,200	(\$18,400)
Equipment	\$3,654,500	\$1,949,000	\$2,009,000	\$60,000
Insurance Claims	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land and Structure	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Budgetary Resources<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$128,861,300</b>	<b>\$135,359,000</b>	<b>\$138,214,700</b>	<b>\$2,855,900</b>

**Table 4.5—FTE Employment and WYs**

	<b>FY 2025 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2026 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2027 President's Budget</b>
FTE	473	455	473
Overtime / Lump Sum Leave	9	5	5
<b>Total:</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>478</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total includes funding from Program Integrity Transfer and IT Modernization no-year funding.

**Table 4.6—Average Grade and Salary**

	<b>FY 2025 Actual</b>
Average ES	\$214,100
Average GS	13
Average GS Salary	\$143,100

**APPROPRIATION HISTORY**

The table below displays the President’s budget request, amounts passed by the House and Senate, and the actual amount appropriated for the period FY 2015 to FY 2026.

**Table 4.7—Appropriation History Table**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Budget Estimate to Congress</b>	<b>House Committee Passed</b>	<b>Senate Committee Passed</b>	<b>Enacted Appropriation</b>
General Funds	\$29,000,000	\$28,829,000		<b>\$ 29,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$75,622,000	\$74,249,000		<b>\$ 74,350,000</b>
2015 Total	\$104,622,000	\$103,078,000 <sup>1</sup>		<b>\$103,350,000<sup>2</sup></b>
General Funds	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$28,829,000	<b>\$ 29,787,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$78,795,000	\$78,795,000	\$74,521,000	<b>\$ 75,713,000</b>
2016 Total	\$109,795,000	\$108,795,000 <sup>3</sup>	\$103,350,000 <sup>4</sup>	<b>\$105,500,000<sup>5</sup></b>
General Funds	\$31,000,000	\$29,787,000	\$29,787,000	<b>\$ 29,787,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$81,000,000	\$75,713,000	\$75,713,000	<b>\$ 75,713,000</b>
2017 Total	\$112,000,000	\$105,500,000 <sup>6</sup>	\$105,500,000 <sup>7</sup>	<b>\$105,500,000<sup>8</sup></b>
General Funds	\$30,000,000	\$29,796,270	\$29,796,270	<b>\$30,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$75,500,000	\$74,987,280	\$74,987,280	<b>\$75,500,000</b>
2018 Total	\$105,500,000	\$104,783,550 <sup>9</sup>	\$104,783,550 <sup>10</sup>	<b>\$105,500,000<sup>11</sup></b>
General Funds	\$30,000,000	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	<b>\$30,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$75,500,000	\$77,500,000	\$75,500,000	<b>\$75,500,000</b>
2019 Total	\$105,500,000	\$108,500,000 <sup>12</sup>	\$105,500,000 <sup>13</sup>	<b>\$105,500,000<sup>14</sup></b>
General Funds	\$30,000,000	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	<b>\$30,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$75,500,000	\$77,500,000	\$75,500,000	<b>\$75,500,000</b>
2020 Total	\$105,500,000	\$108,500,000 <sup>15</sup>	\$105,500,000 <sup>16</sup>	<b>\$105,500,000<sup>17</sup></b>
General Funds	\$33,000,000	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	<b>\$30,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$83,000,000	\$77,500,000	\$75,500,000	<b>\$75,500,000</b>
2021 Total	\$116,000,000	\$108,500,000 <sup>18</sup>	\$105,500,000 <sup>19</sup>	<b>\$105,500,000<sup>20</sup></b>
General Funds	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	<b>\$30,900,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	<b>\$77,765,000</b>
2022 Total	\$112,000,000	\$112,000,000 <sup>21</sup>	\$112,000,000 <sup>22</sup>	<b>\$108,665,000<sup>23</sup></b>
General Funds	\$33,000,000	\$33,000,000	\$32,000,000	<b>\$32,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$84,500,000	\$84,500,000	\$82,665,000	<b>\$82,665,000</b>
2023 Total	\$117,500,000	\$117,500,000 <sup>24</sup>	\$114,665,000 <sup>25</sup>	<b>\$114,665,000<sup>26</sup></b>
General Funds	\$34,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	<b>\$32,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$86,400,000	\$82,665,000	\$82,665,000	<b>\$82,665,000</b>
2024 Total	\$120,400,000	\$114,665,000	\$114,665,000	<b>\$114,665,000<sup>27</sup></b>
General Funds	\$34,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	<b>\$32,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$87,254,000	\$82,665,000	\$82,665,000	<b>\$82,665,000</b>
2025 Total	\$121,254,000	\$114,665,000	\$114,665,000	<b>\$114,665,000<sup>28</sup></b>
General Funds	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	<b>\$32,000,000</b>
Trust Funds	\$82,665,000	\$82,665,000	\$82,665,000	<b>\$82,665,000</b>
2026 Total	\$114,665,000	\$114,665,000	\$114,665,000	<b>\$114,665,000<sup>29</sup></b>

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- <sup>1</sup> H.R. 5464.
- <sup>2</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235).
- <sup>3</sup> H.R. 3020
- <sup>4</sup> S. 1695.
- <sup>5</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114-113).
- <sup>6</sup> H.R. 5926.
- <sup>7</sup> S. 3040.
- <sup>8</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-31).
- <sup>9</sup> Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-56). Funding includes a rescission of 0.6791% of FY 2017 appropriation. The \$30,000,000 in general funds and \$75,500,000 in trust funds included in the language for this account for FY 2018 were reduced by \$415,284 and \$301,166 respectively, in accordance with P.L. 115-56.
- <sup>10</sup> Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-56). Funding includes a rescission of 0.6791% of FY 2017 appropriation. The \$30,000,000 in general funds and \$75,500,000 in trust funds included in the language for this account for FY 2018 were reduced by \$415,284 and \$301,166 respectively, in accordance with P.L. 115-56.
- <sup>11</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-56).
- <sup>12</sup> H.R. 6157.
- <sup>13</sup> H.R. 6157.
- <sup>14</sup> Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 115-245).
- <sup>15</sup> H.R. 1865.
- <sup>16</sup> H.R. 1865.
- <sup>17</sup> Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94).
- <sup>18</sup> H.R. 133.
- <sup>19</sup> H.R. 133.
- <sup>20</sup> Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260).
- <sup>21</sup> H.R. 4502
- <sup>22</sup> H.R. 4502
- <sup>23</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103)
- <sup>24</sup> H.R. 2617
- <sup>25</sup> H.R. 2617
- <sup>26</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117- 328)
- <sup>27</sup> Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-47)
- <sup>28</sup> Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4)
- <sup>29</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75)