

INSPECTOR GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22350-1500

October 17, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION AND SUSTAINMENT

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS

DIRECTOR, FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MILITARY POSTAL SERVICE AGENCY

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE ARMY NAVAL INSPECTOR GENERAL INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE SPACE FORCE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE MARINE CORPS

SUBJECT: Evaluation of DoD Voting Assistance Programs for Calendar Year 2022 (Project No. D2023-DEV0PA-0009.000)

We plan to begin the subject evaluation immediately. The objective of this evaluation is to report on the effectiveness and compliance of the Services' voting assistance programs based on 2022 annual reviews by the respective Service Inspectors General, in accordance with section 1566, title 10, United States Code. We will also report on DoD compliance with DoD Instruction 1000.04, "Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)," November 12, 2019; DoD Directive 5101.11E, "DoD Executive Agent for the Military Postal Service (MPS) and Official Mail Program (OMP)," March 18, 2021; and DoD Instruction 4525.09, "Military Postal Service," July 10, 2018 (Incorporating Change 2, May 24, 2022), with regard to outreach and access efforts for voters covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA). Specifically, we will focus on access to absentee voter registration for voters covered by the UOCAVA and the handling of those absentee ballots by the DoD.

Section 1566 requires the Inspectors General of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Marine Corps to annually review the effectiveness of and compliance with the voting assistance programs of their Services and to report the results to the DoD OIG. DoD Instruction 1000.04 requires the Inspectors General to provide their reports, along with supporting statistical information, to the DoD OIG and FVAP by December 1, of each year. We will analyze and summarize these reports in our final product.

In addition to reporting on the Services' voting assistance programs, we will evaluate the Services' compliance with Executive Order (EO) 14019, "Promoting Access to Voting." On March 7, 2021, President Biden signed EO 14019 aiming to increase voters' access to elections.

The order directs the heads of all Federal agencies to submit proposals for their respective agencies to promote voter registration and participation within 200 days. In addition to the above, for the first biennial evaluation, we will focus on EO 14019 Section 8, "Ensuring Access to Voting for Active Duty Military and Overseas Citizens." Specifically, Section 8(c) requires the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Department of State, the Military Postal Service Agency, and the U.S. Postal Service, to take all practical steps to establish procedures to enable a comprehensive end-to-end ballot tracking system for all absentee ballots cast by military and other eligible overseas voters under the UOCAVA.

Please provide us with a point of contact for the evaluation within **5 days** of the date of this memorandum. The point of contact should be a GS-15, pay band equivalent, or military equivalent. Send the contact's name, title, grade/pay band, phone number, and e-mail address to

You can obtain information about the DoD Office of Inspector General from DoD Directive 5106.01, "Inspector General of the Department of Defense," April 20, 2012, as amended; DoD Directive 5106.04, "Defense Inspectors General," May 22, 2014 (Incorporating Change 1, Effective May 14, 2020); and DoD Instruction 7050.03, "Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense Access to Records and Information," March 22, 2013 (Incorporating Change 1, Effective April 24, 2020). Our website is www.dodig.mil.

If you have any questions, please contact

Jefferson L. DuBinok

Acting Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations Program, Combatant Command, and Overseas Contingency Operations

cc:

INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF HISTIC

INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

INSPECTOR GENERAL, UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

DIRECTOR, ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION