

This email went to all OSC staff from the new Deputy Special Counsel (James Byrne) on the afternoon of February 12, 2007, about four hours after the PEER release.

All OSC Employees:

This e-mail communicates new procedures that will be used by the OPM's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in conducting the remainder of its investigative work in our agency. This message cancels and replaces the September 29, 2006 and January 30, 2007 e-mails sent to all OSC employees by then Acting Deputy Special Counsel Rebecca McGinley.

The OIG will schedule interviews by directly contacting the employee with whom they wish to speak. The date, time, and place of the interviews will be arranged between the OIG and the employee. There is no longer a requirement to use OSC facilities for the interview. The OIG has stated that it will be flexible in its scheduling practices to avoid disruptions or conflicts with ongoing work. OIG will interview employees in both the field offices and headquarters, and it expects to follow up with some employees that it has previously interviewed.

All employees who are contacted by the OIG should cooperate fully with the investigators and provide information and testimony unless disclosure of the information is prohibited by law, regulation, or policy. All employees are permitted to be represented by personal counsel during their interview. Agency counsel will also be made available upon request to provide advice and counsel to any OSC employee about their rights and responsibilities as a witness or be available for consultation by a witness during an interview.

OIG may also request you to identify, or provide copies of, documents that are associated with the questions that they address to you. You should furnish them copies of requested material that are in your possession unless disclosure of the information is prohibited by law, regulation or policy. For documents that are controlled centrally, OIG will direct their requests to my office for response.

You may contact Jill Maroney, the OIG special agent in charge of this investigation at (202) 606-1141, with any questions that you may have. And, you are also welcome to directly contact me with any questions that you may have. We have nothing to hide.