

August 1, 2025

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
The Honorable Robert Garcia
Ranking Member, U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
Integrity Committee

**RE: Request for investigation into Department of Justice Office of Inspector
General mishandling of protected whistleblower disclosure**

Dear Senators, Members of Congress, and Members of the CIGIE Integrity Committee:

Whistleblower Aid and Compass Rose Legal Group, PLLC jointly represent a former attorney with the Department of Justice who, on May 2, 2025, made a protected disclosure to the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General (“DoJ OIG”). We are writing to inform you that we have learned – from the DoJ OIG – that DoJ OIG “lost” our client’s complaint and only “found” it on Monday, June 29, 2025. Accordingly, we respectfully request that you open an investigation into DoJ OIG’s actions – or inactions – associated with our client’s May 2, 2025, protected disclosure.

Whistleblower Aid is a U.S. tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization, EIN 26-4716045.

<https://WhistleblowerAid.org> – Anonymously via **Tor Browser**:

<http://p6ufg73qskew53cglxt6hktyt35rbl46yultzyuytq3tvicywa3pclid.onion>

Contact via **SecureDrop** over Tor: <http://whistlebloweraid.securedrop.tor.onion> – via **Signal App**: +1 201-773-1371

Factual Background

On Friday May 2, 2025, our client submitted a disclosure to DoJ OIG via the online HOTLINE portal. Because the online HOTLINE portal does not permit whistleblowers to attach documents, the client provided a general overview of the disclosure, identified the undersigned as their counsel, and informed DoJ OIG that later that day they will be sending supporting documentary evidence via FedEx. The client then printed the confirmation pages associated with the online submission, placed it on top of the supporting documents – which included correspondence from the undersigned counsel – and FedEx'd the package to DoJ OIG.

On Monday May 5, 2025, at 10:24 am, DoJ OIG received the FedEx package. Tracking data indicates that T. Goodwin signed for the package.

On Monday, June 13, 2025, the undersigned counsel alerted the Senate Judiciary Committee that on May 2, 2025, a whistleblower made a protected disclosure to the DoJ OIG and requested the committee contact the DoJ OIG to inquire as to the status of any investigation associated with the disclosure.

On Friday, July 25, 2025, after Whistleblower Aid put out a press release concerning the disclosure and its relevance to a then-ongoing Senate confirmation, the Senate Judiciary Committee contacted DoJ OIG about the disclosure. Based on information provided to Whistleblower Aid, DoJ OIG informed the Judiciary Committee that it never received the disclosure.

On Monday, July 28, 2025, at 10:41 am, DoJ OIG “found” the hard-copy disclosure they received on May 5, 2025.

As of the morning of Tuesday, July 29, 2025, DoJ OIG was unable to locate the May 2, 2025, online submission. Later that day, DoJ OIG located the May 2, 2025, online submission. Later in the afternoon, DoJ OIG informed Whistleblower Aid that “nothing was put together” – that is the dots were not connected – until that day.

Impact of DoJ OIG's Inaction

Our client submitted a protected disclosure to DoJ OIG in early May 2025 because documentary evidence provided would likely have had a direct and material impact on an ongoing case before a federal judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Weeks after our client's disclosure, it became apparent that not only was their disclosure relevant to a matter in U.S District Court, but had direct

bearing on a judicial confirmation before the U.S. Senate, specifically the nomination of Emil Bove, who was nominated to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals on June 16, 2025

DoJ OIG's failure to timely act on our client's disclosure may not only have impacted a matter before a District Court, but prevented a timely, comprehensive investigation that could have informed members of the Senate about key facts relevant to Mr. Bove's fitness to serve – before his confirmation vote on July 29, 2025.

Furthermore, and equally importantly, DoJ OIG's failure in this instance not only undermines its own mission to ensure accountability with the Department of Justice, but fails to respect whistleblowers who come forward to inspectors general to disclose waste, fraud, and abuse, and violations of law, rule, or regulation. It undermines the very fabric of the internal oversight mechanisms created post-Watergate. In this instance, the DoJ OIG utterly failed to do its job.

Request for a Formal Investigation

Given the aforementioned, we request that you initiate a comprehensive investigation to determine what led to DoJ OIG's failure in this matter and recommend appropriate corrective action so that no other whistleblower brave enough to come forward will have to suffer "lost" complaints.

Sincerely,



Andrew P. Bakaj, Esq.
Chief Legal Counsel

Enclosures: None.