OIG Integrity by Design Charter

Protect trust. Deliver results.

A proposed working charter for Minnesota's Office of Inspector General. Office of Integrity is the proposed public identity.

Our public purpose

Protect Minnesota's public dollars, services and confidence by using data and independent expertise to uncover fraud, waste and abuse, recommend fixes and verify what changes.

The values we practice

Seek the truth. Follow evidence wherever it leads. Test alternative explanations, record limits and contrary evidence, and distinguish a concern, a signal and a supported finding. Correct the record when we get something wrong.

Use power wisely. Act within lawful authority. Protect independence, confidentiality and fair process. Use proportionate methods, document consequential decisions and coordinate without surrendering independent judgment.

Serve the people. Make it easy to raise a concern and understand the next step. Treat people with respect, support accessible reporting and protect eligible beneficiaries and legitimate providers as we examine potential misuse.

Build integrity into the work

Check before paying. Test eligibility, duplicate payments and required approvals.
Account for exceptions. Record who approved a departure, why and on what evidence.
Keep the record intact. Link the claim, approval, payment and correction so another person can trace the decision.

Authority and working relationships

OLA

Separate legislative authority. Receives required credible public referrals. Coordinates when resources are conserved and investigations protected.

§ 15E.25, subd. 2(g)

STATEWIDE OIG

Independent executive oversight reporting to the governor. Investigates fraud and misuse; sets agency IG standards and evaluates performance.

§§ 15E.10, 15E.25

AGENCY IGs

Work within program jurisdiction and transition agreements. Coordinate leads and secure handoffs. Agency management owns implementation of fixes.

§ 15E.25, subds. 1-2

Evidence in. Public value out.

A clear path from concern to action

Sense. Listen to residents and staff. Bring together reports, authorized records, spending patterns and open findings.

Judge. Corroborate the signal. Assess urgency, potential harm and jurisdiction. A human reviewer records the decision and its basis.

Act. Investigate, coordinate or refer through the appropriate authority. Name the responsible owner, next step and review date.

Verify. Test whether correction works in practice. Report what changed, what remains open and what the office learned.

Humans assisted by technology

In the proposed live service, AI would help turn a plain-language concern into structured intake, identify information gaps and flag possible urgency or jurisdiction. Staff would use approved tools to organize source-linked research, sketch review plans and run authorized analytical tests.

People decide what to pursue, authorize access, assess evidence, approve findings and verify correction. Keep sources traceable, validate tool outputs and protect data. AI does not establish guilt, make findings or substitute for professional judgment. A person must be able to raise a concern without relying on AI.

The standard we apply to ourselves

Independent and nonpartisan. Use consistent intake criteria, document conflicts and separate advisory work from independent assurance.
Careful with information. Use authorized access, least privilege, secure handling and documented evidence methods.
Visible follow-through. Track owners, due dates and evidence of correction. Acceptance is not implementation.
Honest measures. Separate cash collected from money ordered, questioned costs and estimated savings. Explain the basis and limits of prevention claims.

Adoption and accountability

Turn this charter into supervised methods, training and quality review. Apply Minnesota law and recognized professional standards. Use legally required external reviews to improve the work. This proposal does not expand statutory authority or adopt state policy.

Related partners: DHS receives Medicaid public referrals; MNIT provides required managed services; the Attorney General, BCA and other authorities receive appropriate enforcement referrals (§ 15E.25). Apply statutory effective dates and transition agreements. Authority and standards: chapter 15E and § 15E.55. The standards library links AIG, GAO, CIGIE and NIST references. Minnesota law governs their application.