

# For Your Inspection



“Mission First, People Always, Integrity Forever”  
Volume V, Issue 4 Winter 2010

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Office Of Inspector General, Corporation For National And Community Service

## OIG Profile

### Richard Samson Audit Manager



Richard Samson, who joined the OIG in 2006, has more than 30 years of audit and accounting experience in Federal contracts, commercial bank operations, and government and private accounting.

As an audit manager, he conducts audits and supervises the work of OIG auditors and accounting firms working under contract to the OIG.

Prior to joining the OIG, Samson was responsible for auditing Mid-Atlantic-based defense contractors for the Defense Contract Audit Agency. From 1996 to 2005, he held the positions of Financial Auditor and Operations Auditor.

Samson also examined proposals, costs, claims, payments, and compliance with Federal criteria for vendors working for the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Departments of Treasury, Energy, and Transportation.

He was audit director for Fairfax Savings in Baltimore, MD, from 1987-1994, where he audited the bank, a title company, and a mortgage banking subsidiary. From 1985-87, Samson was a financial auditor for Mercantile Safe Deposit and Trust, Linthicum, MD.

He began his career in 1980 at Maryland National Bank in Baltimore as a staff accountant and accounting system analyst.

Samson, licensed as a Certified Public Accountant, has a bachelor's degree from Towson (MD) State University.

## WEAPONS HELP ENSURE SAFETY OF OIG AGENTS

The situation can potentially get out of hand when Office of Inspector General Special Agents execute a search warrant or make an arrest. That's why OIG investigators are authorized to protect themselves by carrying firearms.

The right to carry a firearm is included in the Statutory Law Enforcement Authority that was approved for the OIG in January 2006 by the Department of Justice. Most importantly, the authority allows OIG agents to obtain and execute search and arrest warrants without the assistance of other law enforcement agencies.

Prior to 2006, OIG agents had to depend on local police departments or the U.S. Marshal's Service, which were often overburdened with their own work, in making arrests, obtaining evidence, and for their own safety. Dependence on such backup could lead to delays in OIG efforts to bring a timely halt to the fraud, waste and abuse of Federal taxpayer funds invested in National Service programs.

Things can get tense in the field," said Supervisory Special Agent Jeffrey Morales. "When we execute a search or arrest warrant, there's a possibility that the suspect is going to lose his or her means of

income or their freedom. That person is not going to be happy."

Having law enforcement authority gives us more responsibility, but it can also place our agents in harm's way," added Morales. "It gives us peace of mind to know that we can protect ourselves."

Acting Inspector General for Investigations Robert Holland noted that, before they ever strap on a sidearm, OIG agents must be qualified and certified by undergoing extensive safety and marksmanship and other training at Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers. That training includes classes in unarmed tactics and other use of force techniques designed to



Criminal Investigator Casey Bates trains on clearing a weapon by inserting it in the clearing barrel and making sure there are no live rounds in the chamber

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## SAVE A TREE, NAIL A WRONGDOER

Getting the goods on wrongdoers has gone green at the OIG's Investigations Section.

A single, interactive compact disc has replaced mountain of paper that has long characterized OIG referrals for criminal, civil, or administrative action against persons who allegedly engaged in waste, fraud, and abuse against the Corporation and its programs.



Such documents, sent by the OIG to Federal or local prosecutorial officials or Corporation managers for their consideration and action, can easily run to hundreds of pages, including the referral itself and supporting evidence such as e-mails, financial records, and

memoranda of OIG agent interviews with suspects and witnesses.

The new compact disc format, which is being employed for number of other documents, including OIG recommendations for debarment of wrongdoers, was developed and designed by Supervisory Special Agent Jeffrey Morales.

"This format is going to save more than a few trees," said Robert Holland, Acting Inspector General for Investigations. "It also cuts down on labor and operating expenses for

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## SAVE A TREE, NAIL A WRONGDOER

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such things as photocopying and shipping heavy box-loads of paper.” The discs include hyperlinks to relevant documents and other exhibits. For example, the main document may refer to an admission of guilt made and signed by the suspect as “Attachment 4.” Instead of plowing through a sheaf of paper to see a copy of the confession, the reviewer can simply click on the number “4” to instantly bring the document up on the computer screen.

Using the CDs also helps to secure the documents, which contain sensitive material and personally identifiable information. Sending criminal referrals and other important information via e-mail is not an option for the OIG, which lacks the ability to encrypt its electronic mail.

## VET, ROOKIE BOLSTER OIG INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

A veteran law enforcement professional and a talented rookie have joined the ranks of the OIG Investigations Section. Special Agent Sheila Martus came to the OIG from the Department of Justice’s U.S. Marshal’s Service, where she served as an Enforcement Officer, arresting and handling Federal prisoners. Prior to that, Martus served for six years with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency OIG as a Special Agent specializing in white-collar crime. She began her Federal law enforcement career as a criminal investigator with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.



A Boston native, Martus holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Northeastern University and a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Colorado.

Criminal Investigator Casey Bates joined the OIG staff after serving as a summer intern in 2009, assisting investigators and auditors. She is currently enrolled in an intensive, 12-week, Criminal Investigator Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, GA, where the curriculum includes courses in law, procedures, firearms and defensive tactics.



A Maryland native, Bates earned a bachelor’s degree in criminology and criminal justice from the University of Maryland in May 2009. An accomplished lacrosse player, she earned All-American honors in 2009 as the goalie for the University of Maryland Lacrosse Club.

## WEAPONS HELP ENSURE SAFETY OF OIG AGENTS

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render the utilization of firearms a course of last resort. All agents are also required to qualify on the firing range and take use of force training four times each year.

The OIG has adopted strict Federal firearms policies, including mandatory and thorough reviews of any weapons-related incident, to include accidental discharge of a gun. It has also assigned specific oversight duties to OIG staff members and added new facilities for the safe and secure storage of weapons and ammunition.

The OIG’s Statutory Law Enforcement Authority has also increased the ranks of Federal responders in the event of a natural disaster, terrorist attack or other national emergency. OIG agents can be called up to assist in such events under the Emergency Support Function program coordinated by the Department of Homeland Security.

“When an emergency has been officially declared, our agents can quickly be deployed as backup to other Federal law enforcement or local and state agencies.” said Acting Deputy Inspector General Robert Walters. “Thanks to our Statutory Law Enforcement Authority, our agents are fully qualified for this duty.”

## CHIN IS NAMED AUDIT MANAGER

Thomas Chin was promoted in November 2009 to Audit Manager in the OIG Audit Section. Chin, a winner of the 2009 Inspector General Award, joined the OIG in September 2007 as an Auditor. In his new role, he conducts audits and supervises the work of OIG auditors and contract auditors. Prior to joining the OIG, Chin served as Staff Auditor and Senior Auditor at the Public Sector Practice of Ernst & Young, LLP, in Washington, DC.

