



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

AUG 29 2012

The Honorable Christy L. Romero
Special Inspector General
for the Troubled Asset Relief Program
1801 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20220

Subject: Report on the Quality Assessment Review of the Investigative Operations of the Office of Inspector General for the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program

Dear Ms. Romero:

We have reviewed the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative function of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP) in effect for the period ending May 2012. Our review was conducted in conformity with the Quality Standards for Investigations and the Quality Assessment Review guidelines established by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), as well as the *Attorney General's Guidelines for Offices of Inspectors General with Statutory Law Enforcement Authority*, as applicable.

We reviewed compliance with the SIGTARP system of internal policies and procedures to the extent we considered appropriate. The review was conducted at your offices in Washington, D.C. and New York. Additionally, we reviewed all 32 case files for investigations closed during the previous 12-month period.

In performing our review, we have given consideration to the prerequisites of Section 6(e) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, (IG Act) and Section 812 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub.L. 107-296). Those documents authorize law enforcement powers for eligible personnel of each of the various offices of presidentially appointed Inspectors General. Those powers may be exercised only for activities authorized by the IG Act, other statutes, or as expressly authorized by the Attorney General.

In our opinion, the system of internal safeguards and management procedures for the investigative function of the SIGTARP in effect for the year ended May 2012, is in compliance with the quality standards established by CIGIE and the applicable Attorney General guidelines. These safeguards and procedures provide reasonable assurance of conforming with professional standards in the planning, execution, and reporting of its investigations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen S. Tighe".

Kathleen S. Tighe
Inspector General