Delaware Office of the Inspector General

FY2028 Public Hearing Budget Presentation

Inspector General Robert P. Storch

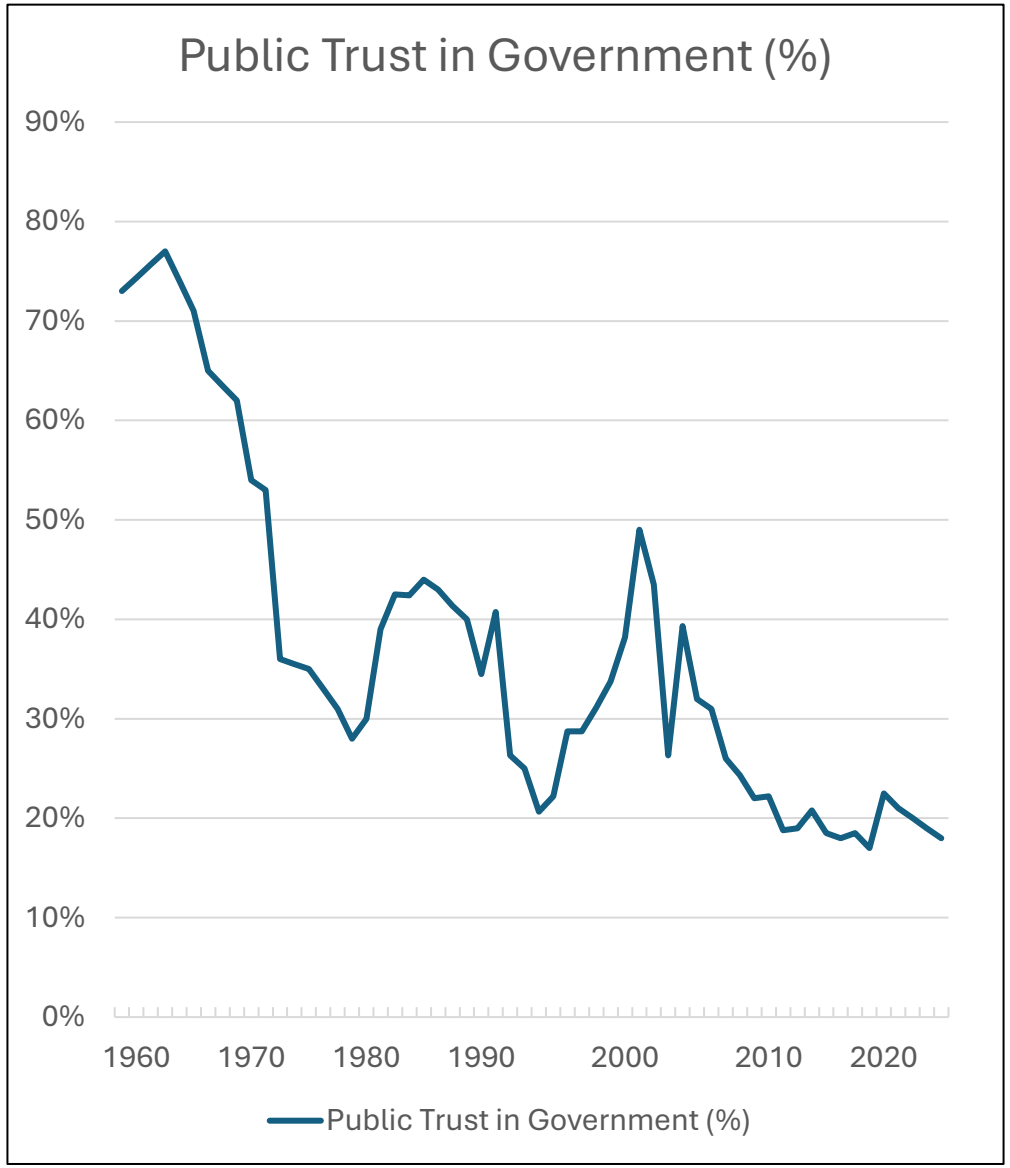
November 10, 2026

The Problem: Public Trust in Government

- The graph depicts the percentage of people who say they trust the government in Washington **to do what is right "just about always" or "most of the time"**

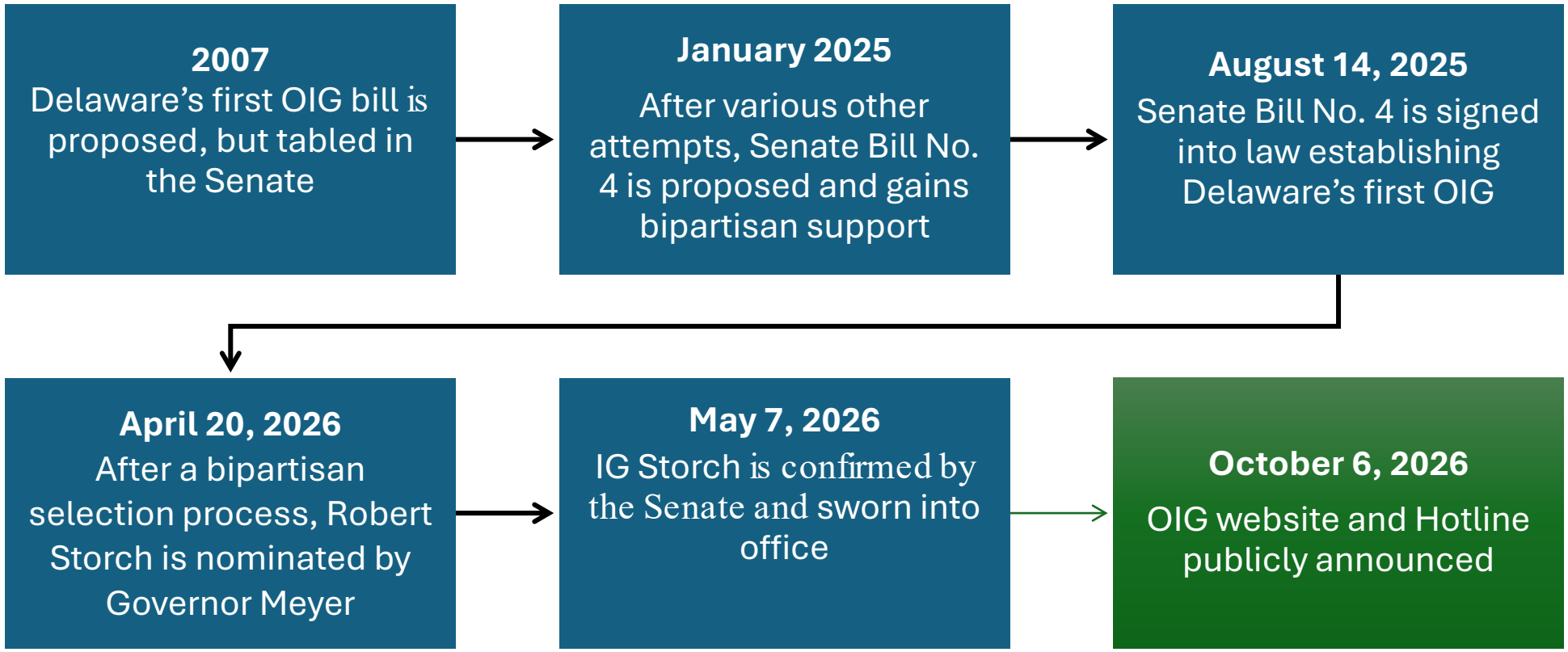
- **59% decrease** in confidence from the mid-1960's and **31% decrease** from the early 2000's

In September 2026, Gallup reported that a record **89%** of Americans believe corruption in government is widespread.



Source: "Public trust in government near historic lows," Pew Research Center, June 2024, https://www.pewresearch.org/chart/public-trust-in-government-near-historic-lows-5/

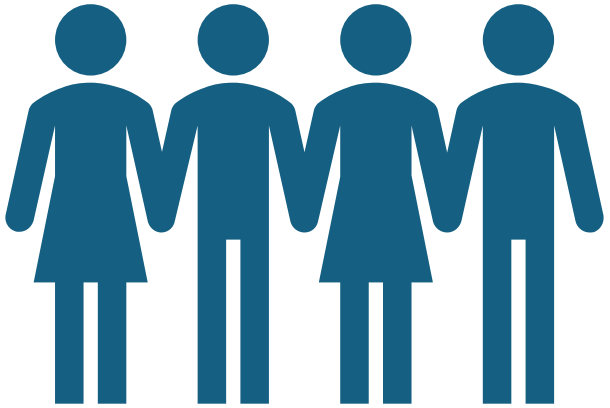
Creation of the OIG



Framework of the OIG



The OIG is established by law as an **independent** and **nonpartisan** agency



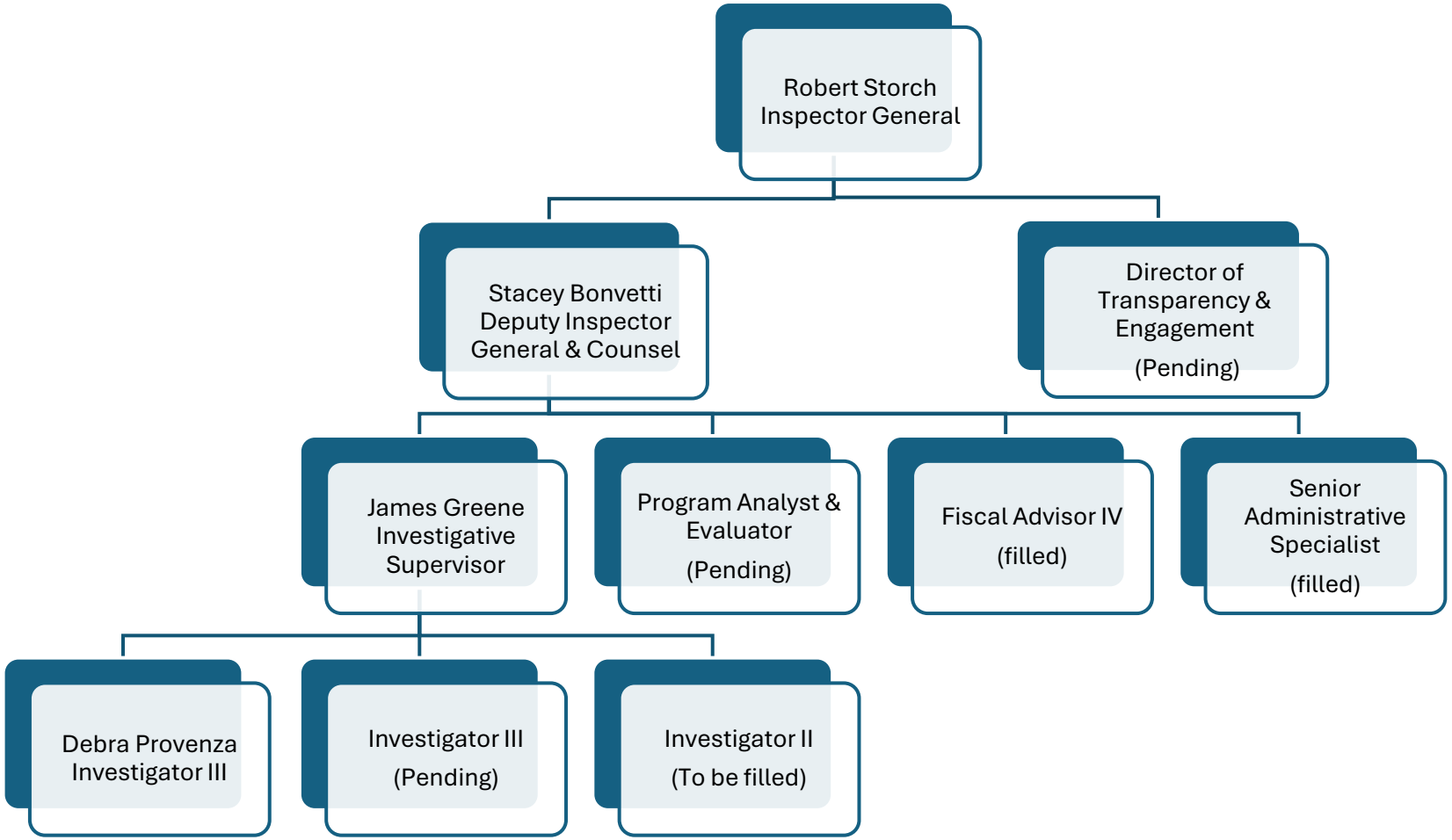
The OIG's statutory purpose is to **protect the public interest** and **enhance public trust** by conducting investigations and holding agencies and individuals accountable for:

- **Fraud**
- **Waste**
- **Mismanagement**
- **Corruption**
- **Other abuse of government resources**

OIG Jurisdiction

Broad jurisdiction over "State Agencies" defined to include any:	"State Agency" does not include:
• Office • Department • Board • Commission • Committee • School District • All public bodies created by the DE Constitution or an act of the General Assembly • The General Assembly, in regard to its management of governmental resources and routine administrative operations	• A county or municipality • A court • The General Assembly in regard to its legislative functions or disciplinary authority

FY2027 OIG Staffing



Reporting to the OIG

- The OIG relies on both government employees and concerned citizens to report what they reasonably believe to be evidence of wrongdoing

- The identities of complaints and witnesses are kept confidential as provided by law
  - OIG can share information obtained in the course of investigations, among other reasons, for collaboration (including with the AG/DOJ, AoA, PIC, and other investigative or law enforcement agencies)

- Complainants also have the option to report anonymously

- OIG has specific jurisdiction to investigate retaliation against whistleblowers



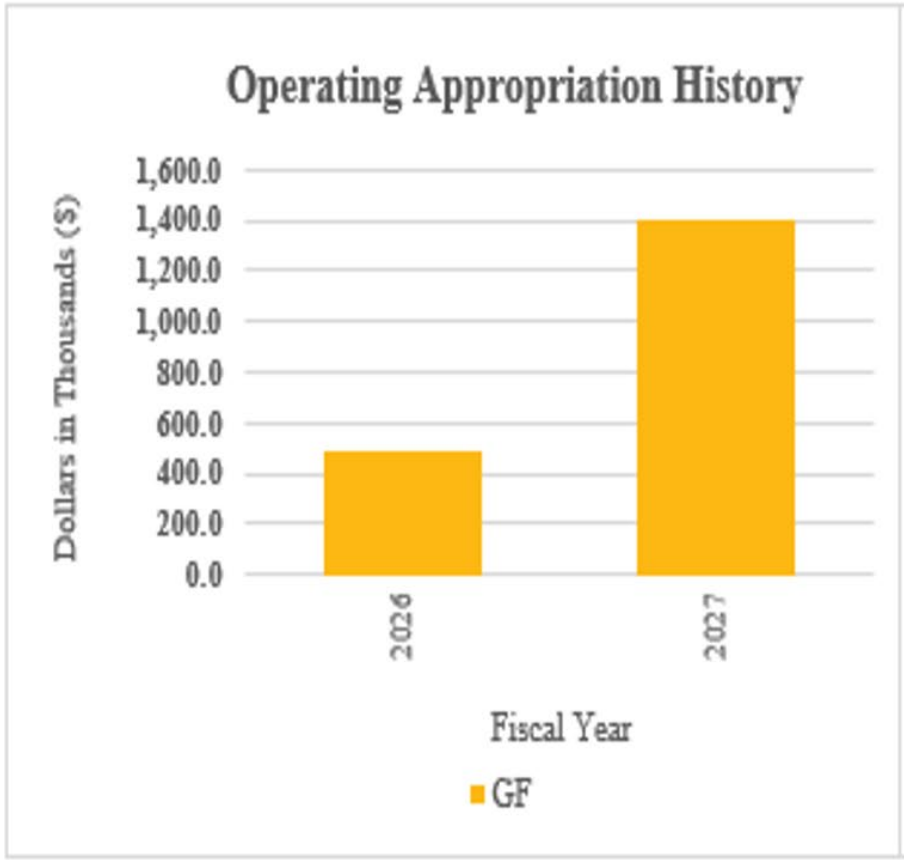


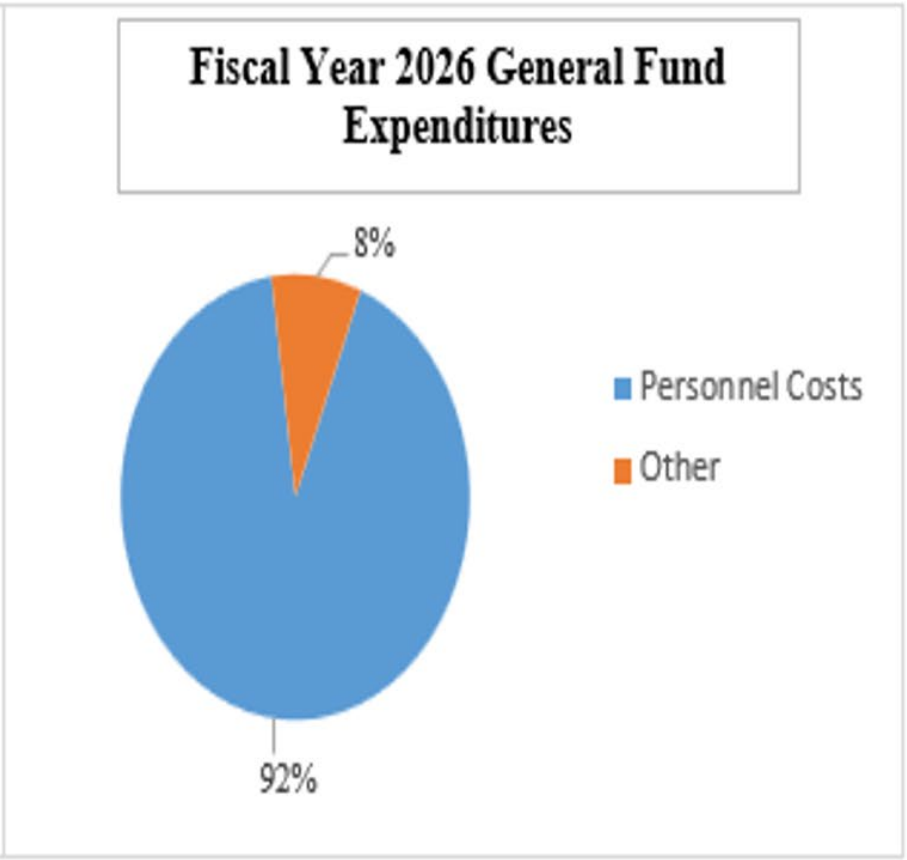
Contact the OIG
Website: OIG.Delaware.gov
Email: OIG_Hotline@delaware.gov
Phone: 1-855-OIG-6998

Current OIG Priorities

- Complete staffing and onboarding of personnel
- Equip the OIG office in Dover and develop the office's presence in Wilmington
- Establish OIG case management system and other tracking and analysis mechanisms and dashboards
- Develop MOUs with other partners, including the AG/DOJ, AoA, PIC, and other investigative and law enforcement entities
- Begin substantive review of complaints and concerns, with initial areas of focus including official malfeasance, systemic issues, and significant fiscal impact
- Develop OIG transparency and outreach program

OIG Budget Structure





OIG FY2028 Budgetary Priorities

GF – Increase of $197.1 (thousands)

- $70.3 - Annualization of existing positions
- $12 - Travel line increase to support required trainings and engagement, and case-related travel
- Reallocation of funds not needed on energy line
- $74.8 - FTE for a second Program Analyst and Evaluator (Management Analyst III) (9 months - partially offset by existing salary savings)
- $40 - Furniture for additional OIG office space

Thank you!