

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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NEWS RELEASE

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OIG Finds issues with Human Rights' Handling of Complaints

Rockville, Maryland – Montgomery County Maryland Inspector General Megan Davey Limarzi announced today the release of a new Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Memorandum of Investigation, <u>Office of Human Rights Intake and Complaint Processing</u>, Publication # OIG-24-16, detailing the results of an OIG Investigation into allegations of mismanagement within the Office of Human Rights' (Human Rights) and their processing and investigation of discrimination and worker protection complaints. The investigation was predicated on allegations received through the OIG's hotline.

The investigation substantiated that Human Rights does not effectively track inquiries and exceeded its established timeframe for completing investigations and issuing determinations. The investigation also revealed that Human Rights has failed to fully implement recommendations made in a 2020 OIG report which also examined, among other things, allegations of processing delays. The OIG subsequently issued recommendations aimed at improving tracking, increasing efficiency, guiding the work done by Human Rights, and elevating staff competencies.

The OIG's findings were reported to the County's Chief Administrative Officer whose office has directed Human Rights to address the issues identified by the OIG.

The full report can be found at

 $\frac{https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OIG/Resources/Files/PDF/IGActivity/FY2024/MOI-HumanRights.pdf}{}$

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