

Office of Inspector General

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528



**Homeland
Security**

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
January 13, 2011
Contact: 202-254-4100

Department of Homeland Security Inspector General Announces Retirement

Washington, DC – Richard L. Skinner, announced his retirement today as the first Senate confirmed Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Skinner devoted his forty-two year federal career to fulfilling the mission of the Inspectors General community. He began his career in 1969 with the Department of Agriculture, and held a variety of OIG management positions with the Departments of Justice, Commerce, State, and the Arms Controls and Disarmament Agency. He also served as the Acting Inspector General, Deputy Inspector General, and Assistant Inspector General for Audits at FEMA where he was awarded the President's Meritorious Executive Rank Award for sustained superior accomplishment in management of programs of the United States Government. Prior to his July 28, 2005 confirmation, he held the position of Deputy Inspector General since March 1, 2003, the date that the Department of Homeland Security was created.

Mr. Skinner was a well-liked and well-respected agent of change. His office was recently ranked as one of the 2010 best places to work in federal government and the #1 place to work within the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Skinner also contributed to improved government services as the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board Vice Chairman and Chair of the Board's Accountability Committee. He was very active in the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency where he chaired the Homeland Security Roundtable, and was Co-chairman of the National Procurement Fraud Task Force Legislative Committee. He was also a member of the CIGIE Integrity; Investigations; and Human Resources committees as well as the Interagency Coordination Group of Inspectors General for Guam Realignment and the Domestic Working Group.

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The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

After serving more than 42 years in the Federal Government, under nine Presidents, I believe the time has come for me to give my full time attention to my family and personal endeavors. I, therefore, will resign my position as Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security, effective March 1, 2011. It has been my honor and privilege to serve both you and President Bush since my appointment in July 2005 as the first Senate confirmed Inspector General of the department.

I am especially honored to have had the opportunity to lead the dedicated men and women of the Office of Inspector General. Because of their commitment, professionalism, and hard work, the OIG has been extremely successful in working with the department to promote the efficacy of its programs and operations, and to combat fraud, waste, and abuse within its ranks. Looking back over the past 9 years since the tragic events on September 11, 2001, we, as a Nation, are now beginning to witness the positive effects of the creation of the Department of Homeland Security.

I wish to express my appreciation to and respect for Secretary Napolitano, and former Secretaries Chertoff and Ridge, all of whom were supportive of my office, and, all of whom are extraordinary public servants dedicated to serving the American people. I also wish to express my appreciation to the Congress, in the Senate and House, on both sides of the aisle, for their support over the years. And, finally, I wish to acknowledge my colleagues in the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. They nobly serve the American taxpayer, often under stressful conditions, to bring transparency, accountability, and improvements to government programs and operations.

I wish you continued success as you lead our beloved Nation and endeavor to secure the homeland. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Very respectfully,

//signed//

Richard L. Skinner