



OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202



August 30, 2021

To the Honorable City Council Members of the Baltimore City Council
Public Safety and Government Operations Committee
City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street, Room 409
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 21-0106 Study and Report – Oversight of the Baltimore City Fire Department

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0106, which proposes requiring that the Baltimore City Fire Department, in consultation with certain other agencies, submit a report to the Mayor and City Council evaluating departmental operations, fire suppression and Emergency Medical Services staffing, community risk reduction programs, and performance management programs; and providing for a special effective date. Specifically, in accordance to Section 1 (b)(7) on page 2, the report shall include:

the amount of formal complaints submitted to the Office of the Inspector General by Department employees in the previous 7 years, disaggregated by the complaint type (if applicable), and the amount of complaints submitted to the Office of the Inspector General that were determined by the Office to be outside the scope of its authority;

The OIG's responsibilities include "investigating complaints fraud, financial waste, and abuse in City government." City Charter, Art. X, § 3(b)(1). In the previous seven years, the OIG has received 40 complaints. Of those 40 complaints, 34 complaints fell outside the OIG's jurisdictional purview.

The OIG takes no position on the legislation and defers all other subsections of Section 1 (b) to the Baltimore City Fire Department and the Department of Law.

Sincerely yours,

Isabel M. Cumming
Inspector General

REPORT FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE

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