

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<https://oig.ssa.gov>

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Social Security, OIG Expand National Anti-Fraud Program

Three New Disability Investigations Units Established

The Social Security Administration (SSA) and its Office of the Inspector General (OIG) announced that three new Cooperative Disability Investigations (CDI) Units opened across the country this month. As part of the nationwide CDI Program, the new units will identify, investigate, and prevent Social Security disability fraud throughout their respective states. The new CDI units opened in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Honolulu, Hawaii; and Indianapolis, Indiana.

The CDI Program is one of Social Security's most successful anti-fraud initiatives, contributing to the integrity of Federal disability programs. CDI brings together personnel from SSA, its OIG, State Disability Determination Services (DDS), and local law enforcement agencies to investigate potential fraud in the Social Security disability program. The CDI Program investigates suspicious claims of new applicants, helping resolve questions of fraud before benefits are paid, and questionable in-pay cases, involving beneficiaries who may no longer qualify for disability benefits. CDI efforts help disability examiners make informed decisions, ensure payment accuracy, and generate significant taxpayer savings for Federal and State programs.

"CDI has a long, successful track record of identifying and preventing disability fraud and abuse," said Acting Inspector General Gale Stallworth Stone. "We're pleased to partner with Social Security, the DDSs, and local law enforcement agencies across the country, to combat fraud and promote the integrity of Social Security's disability programs."

The CDI Program now consists of 43 units covering 37 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. SSA and OIG have opened several offices in the last few years as they work together to provide CDI coverage for all 50 states by 2022, as mandated by the *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015*.

"Social Security is committed to combating fraud and preserving the public's trust in our programs," said Nancy A. Berryhill, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. "As we open the three new CDI units, let us remember the important work they do. The CDI Program plays a critical role in detecting and preventing fraud, helping to ensure benefits are paid only to the people who are eligible. This

collaboration between Social Security, the OIG, and local law enforcement helps save taxpayer money and ensures the integrity of our programs.”

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Since 1997, when SSA and OIG established CDI, its efforts have contributed to \$3.9 billion in projected savings to Social Security’s programs, and \$2.9 billion in projected savings to other Federal and State programs.

Public citizens who would like to report suspected disability fraud should report it to the OIG online at <https://oig.ssa.gov>.

For more information, please contact Andrew Cannarsa, OIG Communications Director, at (410) 9652671.