

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

City Council



Ordinance No. 17

Introduced by: Deputy Mayor Koalastyll

For Mayor TheySinned, Credits: AlexJCabot

An ordinance for an Act entitled:
"Sherlock Holmes Act"

AN ORDINANCE to establish the Inspector General's office in the District of Columbia, dedicated to bolstering executive oversight and producing auditing mechanisms to ensure transparency, integrity, and efficiency in municipal operations.

SECTION 1. SEVERABILITY, EFFECTIVE DATE, GENERAL PROVISIONS, CODIFIED REFERENCE.

- (a) This bill is severable, meaning if one part does not abide by the City Charter or Federal Law, the other parts will remain in action unless also found to also violate set laws.
- (b) All municipal legislation contradicting this bill and its contents is hereby null in void collectively.
- (c) This bill's codified reference shall be referred to as "D.C. Ordinance 24-17"
- (d) This bill shall go into effect immediately upon passage following a majority of approval from the District of Columbia City Council.

SECTION 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- (a) Section 1. Severability, Effective Date, General Provisions, Codified Reference
- (b) Section 2. Table of Contents
- (c) Section 3. Establishment
- (d) Section 4. Powers and Authorities
- (e) Section 5. Organization of the District Inspector General's Office
- (f) Section 6. Removal
- (g) Section 7. Requirements

SECTION 3. ESTABLISHMENT.

a) Per [Article III, §7\(e\)](#) of the charter the D.C. City Council is authorized to create, abolish, or organize any office, agency, department, or instrumentality of the government of the District and to define the powers, duties, and responsibilities of any such office, agency, department, or instrumentality.

i. Citation:

e. The Council shall have authority to create, abolish, or organize any office, agency, department, or instrumentality of the government of the District and to define the powers, duties, and responsibilities of any such office, agency, department, or instrumentality.

b) The nomination of the District Inspector General shall be made by the D.C. Mayor, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the council.

i. The District Inspector General shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

c) The District Inspector General and all individuals employed within their office are deemed employees of the municipal District of Columbia and hold the status of City employees for administrative and regulatory purposes.

d) The Office of the District Inspector General shall provide a status report concerning the progress in its office to the council upon request.

i. The procedure for this shall be dependent upon a formal subpoena issued by the council.

e) City Council shall have the entitlement to access all channels of appeal under the oversight of the Office of the District Inspector General; furthermore, they shall not be deprived of access to said avenues, albeit their privilege to speak in such channels may be limited; nonetheless, they are welcome, without exception, to channels opened both to the general public and the administrators of said channels.

SECTION 4. POWERS AND AUTHORITIES.

a) The District Inspector General shall exercise oversight of Municipal Entities in the context of internal investigations; their office shall retain oversight until the conclusion of an investigation.

i. These investigations, audits, or probes may be directed and restricted by order of the Mayor's Office.

ii. All department heads are mandated to adhere to all directives issued by the Inspector General's Office. The Inspector General's Office retains the authority to investigate department heads, and must inform the City Council, Council Chairman, and Mayor's Office accordingly.

1. Impeding the Inspector General's Office in the execution of their official and legally mandated duties shall constitute a municipal criminal offense, termed "Obstruction of OIG Investigations". Upon conviction in a court of law, perpetrators shall be subject to a maximum of 5 days of immediate arrest, to be served concurrently with any federal prison sentence imposed.

2. The Inspector General's Office is authorized to utilize this section and subsection of this act to "summon" municipal employees for interviews relevant to an ongoing investigation.

b) The Inspector General's Office is empowered to initiate investigations, probes, or inquiries into any instances of unethical, illegal, immoral, or violations of departmental policy, encompassing but not restricted to:

i. Uniform violations;

ii. Illegal actions in their official capacity as a city employee;

iii. Any other action(s) they deem to be necessary to investigate or look into.

c) The District Inspector General shall be vested with the authority to administer disciplinary actions, including suspension or termination, against municipal employees found in violation of regulations, subject to the approval of the Mayor's Office.

i. These disciplinary actions may be undertaken prior to, during, and subsequent to the conclusion of an investigation, provided that they are substantiated and approved by the Mayor's Office.

- d) The District Inspector General shall have the authority to rescind disciplinary actions imposed upon any department within the district.
- e) The District Inspector General shall be permitted to delegate powers vested in them to their subordinate staff.
- f) The District Inspector General shall possess the authority to promulgate policies or memoranda applicable to individual departments or the entirety of the district. Upon enactment, the relevant municipal agency shall be obligated to adhere to the directives delineated therein. The issuance of such memoranda shall be contingent upon their necessity or appropriateness, as determined by exigencies or in response to specific reports mandating the clarification of procedural modifications.
 - i. Failure to comply with an ODIG directive shall lead to executive intervention and recourse determined by the Mayor's Office.

SECTION 5. ORGANIZATION OF THE DISTRICT INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.

- a) [District] shall be forgone for this section, the organization of the District Inspector General's Office shall be as follows, i being the highest and v being the lowest;
 - i. Inspector General
 - ii. Deputy Inspector General
 - iii. Assistant Inspector General(s)
 - iv. Senior Auditor
 - v. Auditor
 - 1. Auditors for the Inspector General's Office shall have the authority to interview individuals of interest, produce comprehensive audits, execute auditing, and compliance operations as directed by the Inspector General, and submit regulatory recommendations and reports to the Inspector General.
- b) The Inspector General shall have the authority to establish new roles and positions within the Inspector General's Office at their discretion if deemed appropriate or necessary.

SECTION 6. REMOVAL.

- a) The Mayor shall be authorized to remove the District Inspector General at their pleasure or upon a majority concurrence of City Councilors voting such.
- b) The District Inspector General shall hold office until resignation, removal, or proven ineligible.
- c) The Mayor and City Council shall have the authority and power under this section to remove the District Inspector General for one or more of the following;
 - i. Incompetency, to be defined by the Courts of the United States, the doctrine of stare decisis and common law;
 - ii. Inactivity, to be defined by the Courts of the United States the doctrine of stare decisis and common law.

SECTION 7. REQUIREMENTS.

- a) No person shall hold the Office of the Inspector General who has not been a citizen of the United States cumulative for three (3) months.
- b) No person shall hold the Office of the Inspector General who is a federal prisoner concurrent with their time in office.
- c) No person shall hold the Office of the Inspector General who has been convicted of crimes against the people of the District of Columbia and/or the people of the United States in a court of law.
- d) No person shall hold the Office of the District Inspector General who has not taken the oath of office.
 - i. This shall be the Oath of Office the Inspector General must take to officially assume the duties and office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia; “I, (name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of Inspector General for the District of Columbia to the best of my ability, and that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the City Charter for the District of Columbia, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this City, under the authority of the people. So help me God.”

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