

PEACE CORPS OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL



Biennial Report to Congress Section 2, §8E(d)(1)(A) Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act

November 2014

SUMMARY

On November 21, 2011, the President signed into law the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011¹ (Kate Puzey Act), which enhances Volunteer safety and security and the Peace Corps' response to Volunteer victims of sexual assault. This report complies with section 2, section 8E (d)(1)(A) of the Kate Puzey Act.²

This report identifies complaints or allegations received by OIG between October 1, 2012 and September 30, 2014, which meet the legislative reporting criteria pursuant to the Kate Puzey Act. During the report's timeframe, the Investigation Unit received approximately 553 complaints (see Figure 1). One hundred of those complaints were received from Volunteers regarding Peace Corps staff as they pertain to the Kate Puzey Act reporting criteria (see Table 1 below). Mismanagement allegations were the most common type of complaint received, followed by misconduct and then policy violation allegations. OIG further categorized the allegations by subtype (see Figures 2-4). The mismanagement allegations covered a broad spectrum of complaints, including complaints about administrative separations (21 complaints received), safety concerns (16 complaints received), and administrative matters (11 complaints received).

Figure 1. Total Complaints

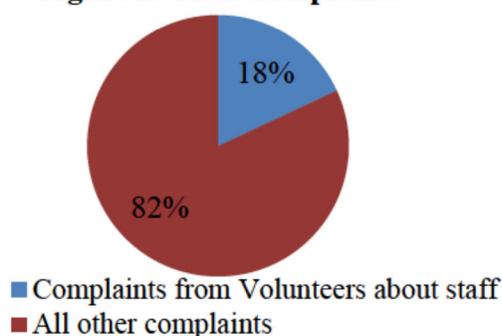


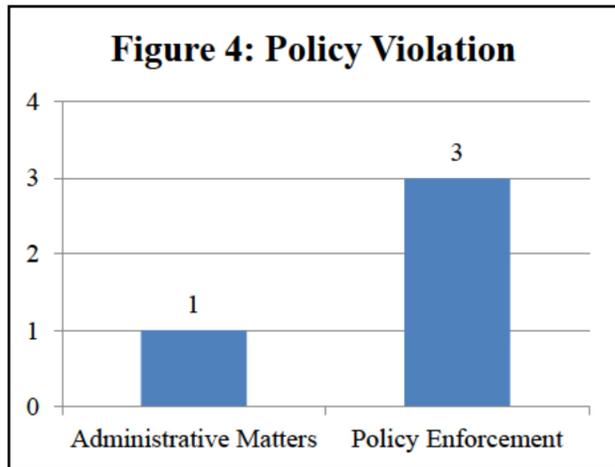
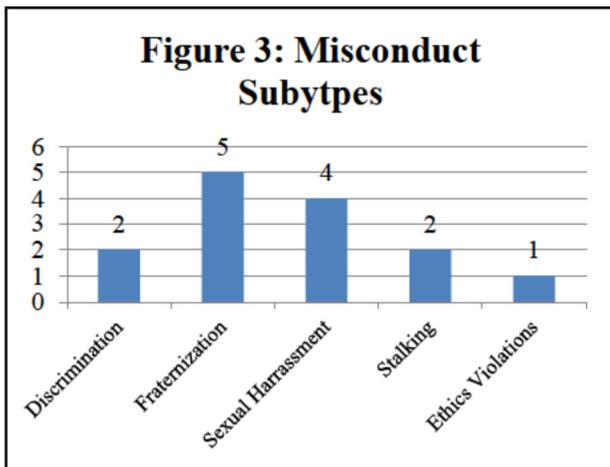
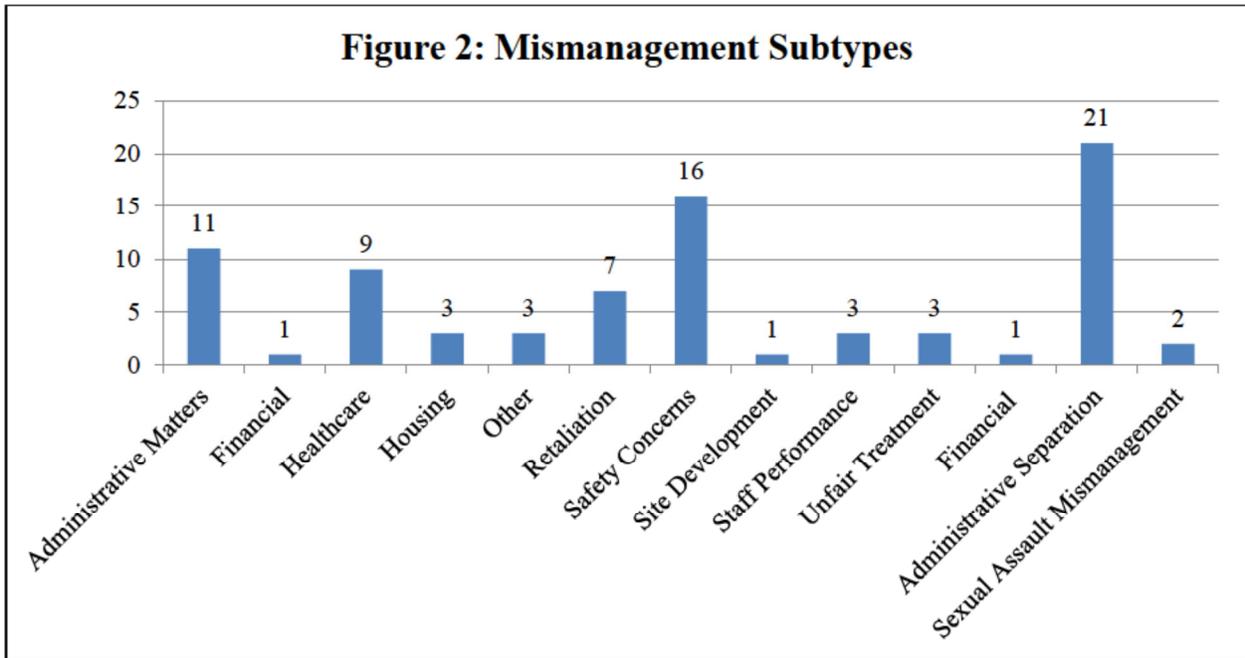
Table 1. Breakdown of Allegations Received from Volunteers about Staff

Allegation Type	Number Received	Percent of Total
Mismanagement	81	81%
Misconduct	15	15%
Policy violation	4	4%

Note: Percentages may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

¹ P.L. 112-57

² Under this section OIG is mandated to "...submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, and biennially through September 30, 2018, on reports received from volunteers relating to misconduct, management, or policy violations of Peace Corps staff, any breaches of the confidentiality of volunteers, and any actions taken to assure the safety of volunteers who provide such reports."



Eighty-four allegations involved matters in which no actions were taken to assure the safety of Volunteers. In such cases it was determined that no action was either necessary or feasible because the Volunteers involved had already left the country, closed their service, or remained anonymous. Twelve allegations were converted into investigations.

OIG received six allegations from Volunteers regarding breaches of confidentiality. In all six instances OIG was unable to substantiate that a staff member improperly released confidential information in violation of federal law, regulation or policy.

OIG receives allegations or complaints through the OIG Hotline, through contact with Peace Corps trainees/Volunteers, staff or other interested parties, or through OIG audits and

evaluations.³ The majority of complaints (51 percent) were sent through the OIG’s email account while thirty-one percent of complaints were sent through its online reporting tool located on the OIG webpage of the Peace Corps website.

OIG received the complaints from Peace Corps staff, trainees, Volunteers, returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs), family of Volunteers, or the general public.

Table 2. Breakdown of Allegations Received by Source of Complaint

Source of Allegation	Percentage of Total Allegation
Staff ⁴	1
Trainee	3
Volunteer	80
RPCV	14
Response Volunteer	2

The OIG Investigation Unit determines whether or not the facts and circumstances of the complaints give rise to a criminal or administrative violation, and if appropriate, refer cases for criminal prosecution or to agency management for action. Investigations are conducted under the direction and guidance of the assistant inspector general for investigations and in accordance with the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended (5 U.S.C. App 3).

OIG is committed to reviewing all complaints, allegations, or concerns, and giving them serious consideration and treating them with the utmost discretion. OIG will not disclose the identity of individuals reporting the information without their consent, unless the inspector general determines such disclosure is unavoidable during the course of an investigation.

In coordination with the Office of Safety and Security (OSS), the Office of Civil Rights and Diversity (OCRD), the Office of Health Services (OHS), the regions, and country directors (CDs) as appropriate, OIG documents actions taken to assure the safety of Volunteers providing complaints or allegations. Additionally, when conducting investigative activity, OIG regularly evaluates the safety of Volunteers who provide complaints, or allegations. These actions are necessary because a Volunteer’s safety and security may be at risk as a result of providing reports, allegations, or information to the agency or to OIG.

Consistent with its strategic plan, OIG has established an Outreach Committee (OC) to engage with staff and Volunteers on the role of OIG. The OC, with the support of the Peace Corps’ Office of Communications, has also developed an awareness campaign to ensure that applicants,

³ The Hotline includes various methods to contact OIG including a phone number, fax line, email address, Post Office box, and online reporting tool found at www.peacecorps.gov/ContactOIG. The online reporting tool includes a method for reporting allegations and information anonymously.

⁴ If allegations originated from the Volunteer but were shared with OIG by a Peace Corps staff member, the source of the allegation was recorded as the Volunteer. In this case, wrong-doing was inadvertently discovered after a Volunteer made a complaint about a separate issue.

Volunteers, and Peace Corps staff are educated on the role of OIG and how to report allegations or other information to OIG, including reporting allegations confidentially or anonymously. Volunteers now receive information about OIG throughout the Volunteer lifecycle, from the application stage through the time they close their service. A sample of these materials is included in Appendix A.

METHODOLOGY

The Investigation Unit tracks incoming complaints as described in Section 2, §8E(d)(1)(A) of the Kate Puzey Peace Act. OIG determined the scope of this report would include allegations or complaints received between October 1, 2012 and September 30, 2014.

For the purposes of this report, OIG considered only allegations or complaints originating from Volunteers or RPCVs against Peace Corps staff relating to misconduct, mismanagement, or policy violations. If the complaint or allegation originated with a Volunteer, but was submitted to OIG by another individual, the information has been included in this report. For the purposes of this report, the term “Peace Corps staff” includes employees, experts, consultants, host country nationals, and personal services contractors. Complaints generated from Volunteers against other Volunteers were not considered for this report. Breach of confidentiality refers to any alleged breaches by staff, regardless of whether or not they were substantiated.⁵ If OIG received multiple complaints about an incident, each complaint is counted, but only one allegation summary is provided. Information for each allegation includes: the geographic region where it occurred, its type and subtype, a summary, and breaches of Volunteer confidentiality and a description actions taken to assure the safety of Volunteers providing complaints or allegations (if any), as well as the outcome/disposition.

⁵ Breaches might include the improper disclosure of information protected under federal law, regulations, or policy; the identity of an individual reporting misconduct, mismanagement or policy violations; and sensitive personal information disclosed in confidence to Peace Corps staff.

ALLEGATION #1

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Fraternization

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a complaint that a Volunteer and a language and cultural facilitator may have been involved in an inappropriate relationship.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety. At the time the allegation was made, the language and cultural facilitator was neither working for the Peace Corps nor living in the host country.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #2-6

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: OIG received numerous allegations about a proposal to administratively separate a Volunteer.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #7

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Sexual Harassment

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer stating that he/she was sexually harassed by a staff member.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: The Volunteer advised that he/she felt safe. The Volunteer was provided information on OCRD and advised to contact the office so it could immediately address the matter, as well as any further instances of alleged harassment or retaliation.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to OCRD. OCRD followed up with the Volunteer and CD. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #8

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Retaliation

Allegation Narrative: In [REDACTED], OIG was informed of an allegation from an RPCV who believed that the Peace Corps medical officer (PCMO) at the RPCV's post was wrongfully terminated after she had contacted headquarters to discuss working conditions.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety because he/she had already completed his/her service.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #9

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Housing

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer that his/her housing was not approved in a timely manner. The Volunteer felt that this was indicative of Peace Corps staff's inability to support Volunteers in the case of an emergency.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to the OIG Evaluations Unit and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #10

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Policy Violation **Subtype:** Policy Enforcement

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about the CD's enforcement of Peace Corps policies.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #11

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Healthcare

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an email from a Volunteer who raised concerns about the medical care he/she received from the PCMO.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to the OHS's Quality Improvement department as well as the regional medical officer. The quality nurse team reviewed the Volunteer's medical records and the regional medical officer addressed the [REDACTED] concerns raised with the PCMO. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #12

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Staff Performance

Allegation Narrative: OIG received an allegation from the CD via the Hotline that a staff member was assigning his/her responsibilities to subordinates and misusing his/her position for financial gain. The problem was initially brought to the CD's attention by a Volunteer.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The alleged financial gain was a small amount (approximately \$72). This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #13

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from an RPCV about his/her recent administrative separation.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG determined it would not take any further action. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #14

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Sexual Harassment

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation that a staff member had entered a Volunteer's house without permission and was sending inappropriate messages to female Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: The Volunteer's site was assessed by the CD, who determined, along with the Volunteer, that the Volunteer would be safe at his/her site for the remainder of his/her service. The Volunteer terminated his/her service [REDACTED] after OIG received the allegation.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG investigated the allegation and determined that the post staff member violated Peace Corps policy. The post did not renew the staff member's contract.

ALLEGATION #15

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Sexual Harassment

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation that a staff member made sexual advances towards a Volunteer.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety. The Volunteer made the allegation [REDACTED] with the CD.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the CD counseled the staff member to ensure that there would be no future misunderstandings. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #16

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Staff Performance

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from an RPCV about the poor performance of post staff, particularly in terms of site development.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #17

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about post staff's refusal to reimburse him/her for the cost of [REDACTED]. The Volunteer had spent [REDACTED] after discovering his/her housing did not have running water as negotiated in the lease agreement.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG advised the Volunteer that it could not authorize payment. The Volunteer, prior to bringing the allegation to OIG, brought it to Peace Corps management at headquarters and was denied. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #18

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from an RPCV about his/her recent administrative separation.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #19

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America and [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Fraternization

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from an RPCV that a staff member had fraternized with Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety because he/she had already completed his/her service.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The allegations were investigated and OIG was unable to substantiate the allegation. The Volunteer with whom the staff member was alleged to have fraternized denied any wrongdoing had occurred. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #20

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer in Colombia in reference to his/her medical separation.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The Volunteer was advised of the appeal process and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #21

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Ethics Violations

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an anonymous complaint from a Volunteer regarding the actions of the CD. The Volunteer accused the CD of ethics violations, accepting unlawful gratuities, fraternization, discrimination, and giving certain Volunteers preferential treatment.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: No further complaints from the post were received. The initial complaint was anonymous with no specific, actionable information so the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #22-23

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: OIG received two allegations from a Volunteer regarding post's failure to appropriately address safety and security concerns, particularly those concerns related to the harassment of female Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: The concerns were shared OSS, which responded by performing a safety and security assessment of the country and issuing a report with [REDACTED] recommendations. [REDACTED].

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #24

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a trainee that he/she had been placed in an unsafe host family situation, and that when he/she had requested a site change the responsible staff member mishandled the situation. The trainee also claimed that the same staff member treated another staff member inappropriately.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: The concerns were shared with OSS, which responded by performing a safety and security assessment of the country and issuing a report with [REDACTED] recommendations. [REDACTED]

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #25

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an email from the parent of an RPCV requesting that Peace Corps review the incident leading to the RPCV's administrative separation and grant the RPCV leniency for a first offense.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #26

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED] [REDACTED] OIG received a phone call from the parent of a Volunteer with concerns about actions taken by the CD, particularly the closure of the “Peace Corps Hostel” and the cessation of mail delivery to Volunteers’ villages.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #27

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] with concerns about actions taken by the CD. The Volunteer claimed that the cash-in-lieu of an airline ticket that was offered to him/her by the administration did not equal the money the post would have had to spend to purchase his/her return ticket.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #28

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Fraternalization

Allegation Narrative: In [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation that a staff member made inappropriate comments to a Volunteer.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: There were no allegations of physical contact between the Volunteer and staff member, and no indication that action was necessary to protect his/her safety. Furthermore, the staff member left [REDACTED] prior to OIG receiving the allegation.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The allegations were investigated and OIG was unable to substantiate the allegation. The case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #29

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from an RPCV regarding his/her recent administrative separation.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #30

Peace Corps Region: Domestic

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a complaint from an RPCV regarding the AfterCorps healthcare coverage of his/her dependent.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG referred the allegations to the Peace Corps' Post Service Unit. The Post Service Unit manager reviewed the case and informed OIG that the Peace Corps' is unable to change the policy after care was received. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #31

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] American [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a complaint from a Volunteer about the change in the AfterCorps healthcare coverage following the passage of the Affordable Care Act. The Volunteer felt that because the promise of extended healthcare coverage following his/her service was used as a recruitment tool, it should be honored.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG requested and received information from the agency on the aforementioned program. OIG provided the Volunteer with agency guidance and referred the allegations to Peace Corps management. This case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #32-33

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: OIG received multiple allegations from Volunteers regarding the hiring of an RPCV as the post's interim Safety and Security Manager.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety because he/she had already completed his/her service.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the OIG Audit Unit. The case was closed on [REDACTED]. The concerns have served as input for the ongoing follow-up audit of the Peace Corps Volunteer Safety and Security Program.

ALLEGATION #34-35

Peace Corps Region: Pacific [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: OIG received multiple allegations from Volunteers about the conduct of a staff member. Volunteers alleged that the staff member made derogatory comments about other Volunteers, disclosed confidential medical information, and retaliated against Volunteers who expressed concerns.

Breach of Confidentiality: While OIG was unable to substantiate that the staff member improperly released confidential information in violation of federal law, regulation or policy, the investigation revealed several instances in which a staff member made improper comments to Volunteers about the reasons that other Volunteers were medically evacuated or resigned.

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG initiated an investigation and referred the matter to the CD for whatever actions deemed appropriate. The referral outlined performance issues with the staff member and documented concerns of Volunteers and how those might impact their service. One case was closed on [REDACTED], and the other on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #36

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer who alleged that the CD failed to appropriately respond to his/her allegations about another staff member.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The Volunteer who reported this allegation requested confidentiality and that OIG take no further action. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #37

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation that post was requiring trainees to contribute money to a cultural event that included host families.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #38

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Healthcare

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a complaint that post was dispensing expired birth control medication to Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to OHS's Quality Improvement department for whatever action it deemed appropriate. A review was conducted and no expired medications were found. The quality nurse determined that the PCMOs were appropriately monitoring the expiration dates of medication. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #39

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Other

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer regarding staff's failure to address concerns he/she raised about host country national children at his/her school being forced to pick potatoes.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #40

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an email from the parent of a Volunteer about a prospective administrative separation.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #41

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an anonymous complaint from a Volunteer regarding the actions taken by staff after a public shooting. The Volunteer felt that staff should have informed Volunteers of the attack and should have been quicker to ensure that all Volunteers were safe and accounted for following the incident.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG did not substantiate the allegation. The CD provided OIG a detailed account of actions his/her staff took after the shooting incident occurred. Actions taken include calling all Volunteers who might have been in the city where the shooting occurred to confirm their safety, notifying the deputy chief of mission that all of those were accounted for, checking Volunteer travel to ensure that no one was planning to travel through the impacted city, confirming safety of staff, and notifying all Volunteers about the incident. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #42

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer, who was concerned that he/she would be administratively separated for funding a Peace Corps project from a non-approved source. The Volunteer alleged that the post was mismanaging the situation and that the post's proposed solutions will result in his/her project's failure.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #43

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America

Allegation Type: Misconduct

Subtype: Stalking

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG was notified that a Volunteer was being stalked by a staff member. The Volunteer and staff member had been engaged in a romantic relationship [REDACTED] during which the former staff member became verbally and physically abusive. After the Volunteer ended the relationship, the former staff member repeatedly contacted and approached the Volunteer.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: Upon the Volunteer's request, the investigation was postponed until after he/she had completed service.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG initiated an investigation and determined that the post employee violated Peace Corps policy. The post employee was terminated from his/her position.

ALLEGATION #44-45

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Policy Violation

Subtype: Policy Enforcement

Allegation Narrative: OIG received multiple allegations from Volunteers that staff members were not enforcing Peace Corps policy regarding Volunteer misconduct. Consequentially, Volunteers' alleged that staff contributed to a "party culture" that fostered reckless and harmful behavior.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #46-47

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: [REDACTED] t **Subtype:** [REDACTED]

Allegation Narrative: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

Breach of Confidentiality: [REDACTED]

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Case Outcome/Disposition: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #48

Peace Corps Region: Domestic

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Healthcare

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a complaint from an RPCV regarding outstanding medicals bills for treatment received due to an injury sustained while in service.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to OHS's medical billing coordinator, who processed the payments for the Volunteer's outstanding medical bills. The Volunteer's allegation was also shared with the OIG Audit Unit, which was in the process of auditing Seven Corners, the contractor for the RPCV insurance program. The case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #49

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a [REDACTED] Volunteer about the adequacy of the health and safety safeguards and training/preparation provided by the post.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management as well as an OIG auditor who was preparing to conduct an audit of the post. The case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #50

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Fraternization

Allegation Narrative: In [REDACTED], OIG was notified that a staff member engaged in sexual relationships with two Volunteers and made inappropriate comments and advances to several others.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety. At the time the allegation was received, the staff member was not working for Peace Corps. Furthermore, the investigation found that the sexual relationships were consensual.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG conducted an investigation and determined that the staff member had inappropriate relationships with several Volunteers. The staff member was terminated from his position.

ALLEGATION #51

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received allegations from a Volunteer about actions taken by staff. The Volunteer reported to staff that he was placed in an unsafe house that did not meet the minimum housing standards. Peace Corps staff reviewed the Volunteer's site and concurred with the Volunteer. The Peace Corps then threatened to remove the Volunteer from his/her site if his/her counterpart did not resolve the housing problems, but according to the Volunteer did not follow through with the threat after the counterpart failed to do so. Instead staff told the Volunteer that the Peace Corps would fix the Volunteer's house and the Volunteer could return to his/her site or early terminate his/her service. The Volunteer felt that the Peace Corps' decision not to change his/her site as was unfair and caused unnecessary stress.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #52

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Healthcare

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about the treatment he/she received from a PCMO. In addition to sharing confidential information about a family member, the Volunteer alleged that the PCMO's treatment of his/her self-diagnosed [REDACTED] disorder was causing unnecessary stress.

Breach of Confidentiality: Yes

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to the director of the Office of Medical Services, and the PCMO was counseled on his/her actions. When OIG followed-up with the Volunteer [REDACTED] the Volunteer reported that he/she was not having any further issues. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #53

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Financial

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer regarding the CD's decision to move the post headquarters to a new location. The Volunteer felt that the decision was fiscally irresponsible and created unnecessary safety risks for the Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #54-55

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Housing

Allegation Narrative: OIG received multiple concerns from Volunteers about a staff member's handling of Volunteer housing. Volunteers alleged that they were placed in inadequate and unsafe housing, and that staff was slow to respond to their concerns.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: At the time one allegation was reported, the Volunteer stated that he/she was currently living with a host family that she liked. The other Volunteer finished his/her service [REDACTED] after sending the allegation.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and OSS. Post has since strengthened the training for host families, enhanced Volunteer resiliency training, and provided greater mentoring and supervision to the staff member in question. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #56

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Retaliation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG was contacted by an RPCV who claimed that he/she was administratively separated because he/she had repeatedly reported concerns for his/her safety.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #57

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Stalking

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG was notified that a former staff member was stalking a Volunteer. The Volunteer and former staff member had been engaged in a romantic relationship [REDACTED], during which the former staff member repeatedly showed signs of possessiveness. After the Volunteer ended the relationship, the former staff member repeatedly contacted, approached, and threatened the Volunteer.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: The Volunteer completed his/her service [REDACTED] after the incident was reported. The embassy was notified in case the former staff member attempted to obtain a visa to the United States. The Volunteer also filed a criminal complaint and emergency protective order with his/her local magistrate in case the staff member was able to come to the United States.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG initiated an investigation and determined that the post employee was stalking the Volunteer. The post did not renew the employee's contract.

ALLEGATION #58

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Retaliation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from an RPCV who felt that he/she was unfairly separated from service after reporting a crime against the wishes of his/her counterpart agency.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety because he/she had already completed his/her service.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG found no evidence to suggest that the Volunteer was separated for reporting a crime. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #59

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Unfair Treatment

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received concerns from a Volunteer about how he/she was treated by a staff member at post.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #60

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America

Allegation Type: Misconduct **Subtype:** Discrimination

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer concerned that he/she was being discriminated against by Peace Corps staff.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to OCRD and the case was closed by OIG on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #61

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Financial

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a [REDACTED] Volunteer concerned that the post was using grant money for purposes outside the scope of the grant.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The OIG Evaluation and Audit Units reviewed the information and no further review was deemed required. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #62

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Misconduct

Subtype: Sexual Harassment

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG was notified by the [REDACTED] CD that a post employee had sexually harassed ([REDACTED] two Volunteers. The incidents occurred [REDACTED] hours apart and at different locations.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: This matter reviewed with OSS and the regional security advisor and they determined that the involved staff member did not pose a security concern to the Volunteer's.

Case Outcome/Disposition: These allegations were referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #63

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America

Allegation Type: Misconduct

Subtype: Discrimination

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received concerns from an RPCV about his/her medical treatment throughout his/her service. The RPCV felt that he/she had been harassed and unfairly treated because of his/her medical history.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to OCRD and the case was closed by
OIG on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #64

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a complaint from an RPCV regarding how post handled the shipment of his/her belongings back to her home of record at the completion of his/her service.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #65

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Site Development

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about how long it was taking the post to assign him/her a new site.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #66

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Unfair Treatment

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer concerned that he/she was being mistreated during his/her administrative separation process.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The complainant did not follow up with requested information and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #67

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about the number of personal days Volunteers were assigned a month to conduct personal business.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #68

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from the parent of a Volunteer who requested to know when the Peace Corps was going to evacuate the Volunteer from his/her site.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety. The safety concerns were confined to a neighboring country.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to the regional director and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #69

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a sibling of a Volunteer about the handling of a safety and security incident involving the Volunteer. The sibling alleged that after the Volunteer was pulled from his/her site for safety reasons, and that the post failed to appropriately support the Volunteer's transition to a new site.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that further action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety. The Volunteer reported that he/she was happy with his/her current site.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The Volunteer was interviewed and he/she believed the post response to the security incident was appropriate. This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #70

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Sexual Assault Mismanagement

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about the way post responded to his/her reported sexual assault.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety. The Volunteer reported the allegation after deciding to end his/her service.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the OIG Evaluations Unit. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #71

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Other

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer in reference to the CD's decision to decline his/her request for a service extension.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #72

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Healthcare

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a concern from a Volunteer who felt that Volunteers should not been sent to local health centers for medical treatment.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #73

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer with concerns about the submission of paperwork for payments.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to the Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #74-75

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: OIG received two allegations about the way a Volunteer's administrative separation was handled by the CD. The separated Volunteer and a Volunteer friend stated that they believed the process was rushed, causing undue stress on the Volunteer who was closing service.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The Volunteer's friend contacted OIG and advised he/she spoke to the CD about this matter and did not need anything further from OIG.

ALLEGATION #76

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Retaliation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer that the CD was retaliating against him/her for reporting sexual harassment committed by a post employee.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to OCRD and the case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #77

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from an RPCV who raised concerns about the condition of his/her site while in country. The RPCV, who was placed in an isolated community, felt that the post did not provide for his/her basic needs in a timely manner,

therefore causing the RPCV to become malnourished. The RPCV felt this action may have taken place because he/she was [REDACTED] and a former [REDACTED]

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety because he/she had already completed his/her service.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This matter was referred to OCRD and to Peace Corps Management. This case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #78

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Retaliation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED] OIG was notified by a Volunteer that the CD was retaliating against him/her for being "wishy-washy" about his safety related requests.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The Volunteer separated from Peace Corps service and this matter was referred to Peace Corps Management. The Volunteer requested that no action be taken until he/she received the readjustment payment. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #79

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED] OIG received an allegation from an RPCV that he/she had been unfairly administratively separated. In addition, the RPCV alleged that senior staff had shared confidential information about the RPCV's early termination with other Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: Yes

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The complainant did not follow up with repeated OIG requests for information and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #80

Peace Corps Region: Domestic

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: OIG received a letter from an RPCV requesting federal employees' compensation act (FECA) benefits for the injuries and damages received while serving as a Volunteer.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect the RPCV's safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG does not have the authority to take any action on behalf of Volunteers applying for FECA benefits. The same letter that OIG received was sent to OHS as well as the Department of Labor—both of which are better equipped to respond to the RPCV's complaints.

ALLEGATION #81

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Misconduct

Subtype: Staff Performance

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about a staff member who was not fulfilling his roles and responsibilities.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The Volunteer advised that [REDACTED] would share his concerns with a staff member at post. This matter was referred to OCRD and Peace Corps management. The case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #82

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Other

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED] OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer who felt that the post leadership was creating an oppressive and unsupportive environment for Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The complainant did not follow up with requested information and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #83

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Healthcare

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer about the Post Service Medical Unit's failure to appropriately respond to his/her questions about post-service health insurance.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG referred this matter to OHS, which then directed the Volunteer to a frequently asked questions page for RPCVs. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #84

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Healthcare

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer who was recently informed that the post medical staff was not going to provide one of his/her prescriptions. The Volunteer requested that the prescription be filled as a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This matter was referred to OCRD and Peace Corps management. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #85

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Unfair Treatment

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an email from a Volunteer who was concerned about the “disrespectful and unprofessional” manner in which the CD treats Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG reviewed the evidence that the Volunteer provided and determined that the Volunteer’s allegation was unfounded. The case was closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #86

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer’s relative who was concerned about the Volunteer’s placement in an area with high rates of Ebola.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: On [REDACTED], Peace Corps announced that it was temporarily removing Volunteers from countries with outbreaks of the Ebola virus.

Case Outcome/Disposition: OIG is conducting an investigative review of the facts and circumstances leading to the removal of Volunteers from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

ALLEGATION #87

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Misconduct

Subtype: Discrimination

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a [REDACTED] who claimed that the post failed to appropriately respond when he/she was physically assaulted by a fellow Volunteer. The Volunteer claimed that the post’s lack of response was because of his/her race,

and that he/she has been consistently discriminated against by post staff throughout [REDACTED] training.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: The involved trainees were assigned to different rooms after this incident was reported.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This matter was referred to the CD and OCRD. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #88

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] America

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED] received an allegation from a former trainee, who claimed that he/she was medically separated for reasons that were never clearly explained, and mistreated by the CD throughout the separation process.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: Ongoing investigation.

ALLEGATION #89-90

Peace Corps Region: Caribbean

Allegation Type: Mismanagement

Subtype: Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: OIG received two allegations from Volunteers concerned about post staff's lack of Volunteer support and its high rate of administrative separations.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The Volunteers requested that OIG take no further action and this matter was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #91

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED] [REDACTED] OIG received an allegation from a RPCV who early terminated when he/she learned that [REDACTED]. After learning that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was going to be fine, the RPCV requested to be reinstated.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: According to Peace Corps policy once Volunteers early terminate from service they cannot be reinstated. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #92

Peace Corps Region: Domestic

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer who claimed that the Peace Corps had not paid the standard \$125 reimbursement for medical clearance expenses accrued by applicants.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This matter was referred to Peace Corps management and was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #93

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Allegation Type: [REDACTED] **Subtype:** [REDACTED]

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Breach of Confidentiality: [REDACTED]

Actions Taken to Assure [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Case Outcome/Disposition: [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #94-95

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: OIG received two allegations regarding the hiring process for a post staff position. The emails alleged that the position was filled without fairly considering all applicants.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This matter was referred to Peace Corps management. At the time of this report, the case had not been closed.

ALLEGATION #96

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Sexual Assault Mismanagement

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer regarding the mismanagement of a sexual assault reported to the post by a fellow Volunteer. The informant claimed that the victim's assailant (also a Volunteer) should have been administratively separated following the sexual assault allegations. The informant further alleged that he/she was aware of two additional Volunteers who were subsequently assaulted by the assailant, and that those attacks could have been prevented had the post administratively separated the Volunteer after the initial assault.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: The alleged assailant was not told who had made complaints against him/her.

Case Outcome/Disposition: The victim of the alleged sexual assault also reported the incident and OIG conducted a full investigation.⁶ The investigation determined that the assailant did engage in sexual activity with the complainant while the complainant was intoxicated—which is a violation of the Peace Corps “Interim Policy Statement 1-12 Volunteer/Trainee Sexual Misconduct.” However due to “lack of clear outcome given conflicting statements and no corroboration,” the post decided not to administratively separate the assailant, but took measures to ensure the accused and alleged victim did not come into contact with one another. The allegation was referred to the OIG Evaluations Unit and closed on [REDACTED]

ALLEGATION #97

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG revived an allegation from a trainee who claimed that he/she was wrongfully administratively separated.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #98

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Administrative Separation

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer who claimed that the CD was falsely accusing him/her of misconduct and is afraid of possible separation.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

⁶ The victim’s allegation is not included in this report because it is outside the scope of the legislative reporting criteria established for this report.

ALLEGATION #99

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Europe and [REDACTED] Asia

Allegation Type: Mismanagement **Subtype:** Safety Concerns

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received an allegation from a Volunteer concerned about the CD's consumption of alcohol [REDACTED] at the CD's residence. According to the Volunteer, when drinking, the CD has shared security information that conflicted with the information post shared with all Volunteers.

Breach of Confidentiality: No

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety. The identity of the Volunteer was not disclosed by OIG.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was sanitized and referred to Peace Corps management. The case was closed on [REDACTED].

ALLEGATION #100

Peace Corps Region: [REDACTED] Africa

Allegation Type: Policy Violation **Subtype:** Administrative Matters

Allegation Narrative: On [REDACTED], OIG received a complaint from a Volunteer who did not want to take a language proficiency interview during his/her [REDACTED] training.

Breach of Confidentiality: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Actions Taken to Assure the Safety of Volunteers: No indication that action was necessary to protect Volunteer safety.

Case Outcome/Disposition: This allegation was referred to Peace Corps management and the case was closed on [REDACTED].

APPENDIX A: VOLUNTEER OUTREACH INITIATIVE

The following are samples of the outreach materials OIG uses to inform staff, Volunteers and trainees of OIG's mission and work as well as the allegation reporting process.

FROM THE PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER PRE-STAGING WORKBOOK

Office of Inspector General

Everyone at headquarters fulfills a different role to support you in serving productively and safely overseas. As mandated by the Congress, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) provides the Peace Corps with independent oversight of all agency programs and operations. We conduct audits, evaluations, and investigations domestically and overseas providing management with recommendations to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the agency, while also protecting the Peace Corps from anyone who would like to do it harm by defrauding or misusing its resources.

If at any point during your service, you suspect fraud, waste, or abuse of government resources you should report it to OIG. Also, if at any point, you believe something was mismanaged (for example, a bribe was taken, your safety is in jeopardy, a sexual assault was mishandled), we urge you to contact our office. It is our job to investigate allegations of misconduct and criminal wrongdoing involving Peace Corps staff, contractors, and Volunteers, and it is our mission to make sure that agency funds are spent appropriately. We evaluate all complaints and protect the identity of complainants. No one may retaliate against you because you choose to report information and you always have the option to report information anonymously.

To learn more about our office please visit www.peacecorps.gov/OIG and follow us on Twitter [@PCOIG](https://twitter.com/PCOIG).

OIG Hotline:

U.S. / Int'l:	202.692.2915
Toll-free in U.S.:	800.233.5874
Fax:	202.692.2901
Email:	OIG@peacecorps.gov
Online Reporting Tool:	www.peacecorps.gov/OIG/ContactOIG
Mail:	P.O. Box 57129, Washington, D.C. 20037-7129

Peace Corps Office of Inspector General



A Volunteer's Guide to Contacting the OIG

REPORT FRAUD, WASTE, OR ABUSE
HOTLINE: 202.692.2915 OR OIG@PEACECORPS.GOV

HOW ARE ALLEGATIONS TREATED?

OIG, by law, cannot disclose the identity of any individual making a complaint or providing an allegation without their consent unless OIG determines, during the course of the investigation, that disclosure is unavoidable.

All allegations by V/Ts will be reviewed and given appropriate consideration. In accordance with Peace Corps Policy, no Peace Corps staff may retaliate in any manner against a V/T because they reported an allegation to OIG.

CAN ALLEGATIONS BE MADE ANONYMOUSLY?

The IG Act provides for anonymous complaints. The most effective means to convey your complaint anonymously is using the web form below. However, investigations are generally more effective if the complainant is available to provide information upon request.

HOW CAN VOLUNTEERS/TRINEES CONTACT OIG?

OIG Hotline :

U.S. / Int'l: 202.692.2915
Toll-free in U.S.: 800.233.5874
Fax: 202.692.2901
Email: OIG@peacecorps.gov
Web Form: www.peacecorps.gov/OIG/ContactOIG
Mail: P.O. Box 57129
Washington, D.C. 20037-7129

For Other Inquiries :

Main Office: 202.692.2900

WHEN VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES REPORT FRAUD, WASTE OR ABUSE, THEY CREATE A BETTER, SAFER, AND MORE EFFICIENT PEACE CORPS.

WHAT IS THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL?

Through audits, evaluations, and investigations, The Office of Inspector General (OIG) provides independent oversight of agency programs and operations in support of goals set forth in the Peace Corps Act while making the best use of taxpayer dollars. The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended (IG Act), established OIG as an independent entity within the Peace Corps.

The Inspector General reports directly to Congress and the Peace Corps Director keeping them fully and currently informed concerning the programs and operations of the Peace Corps.

HOW DOES OIG PROVIDE GENERAL OVERSIGHT OVER THE PEACE CORPS?

OIG reviews the Peace Corps' domestic and overseas programs and operations and periodically OIG staff members travel to Peace Corps posts. OIG is comprised of three units: Audit, Evaluation and Investigation.

AUDITORS review contract compliance and financial and program operations, to ensure accountability and to recommend improved levels of economy and efficiency.

EVALUATORS analyze the management and program operations of the Peace Corps and identify best practices and recommend program improvements.

INVESTIGATORS respond to allegations, reports, or other information of criminal or administrative wrongdoing by Peace Corps employees, contractors, and Volunteers/trainees (V/T).

OIG audit and evaluation reports contain findings and recommendations pertaining to posts where Volunteers serve. Read our most recent reports here: www.peacecorps.gov/OIG.

REPORT FRAUD, WASTE, OR ABUSE

WHAT SHOULD BE REPORTED TO OIG?

OIG conducts investigations of criminal, civil, and administrative misconduct related to the Peace Corps' programs and operations. OIG serves as the law enforcement arm of the Peace Corps and works closely with other federal agencies.

Below are some examples of offenses that V/Ts should report to OIG when they involve Peace Corps employees, contractors, or V/Ts; or when they involve Peace Corps resources or funds administered by the Peace Corps or its Volunteers.

- Theft, abuse or misuse of any Peace Corps resource e.g. money, vehicles, property, or services
- Corrupt, unethical or dishonest actions in official capacity
- Abuse of authority or power for personal gain
- Violations of Peace Corps policy, host country, or U.S. law
- Breaches of confidentiality policy
- Illegal drug use, sales, distribution, or smuggling
- Dating or intimate physical or sexual relationship between a staff member and Volunteer or subordinate staff, or between a Volunteer and a person, including a student, over whom the Volunteer exercises authority
- Sexual assaults and sexual assault mismanagement
- Sexual contact with minors (defined under Peace Corps policy as a person under 18)
- Any person or situation that poses significant danger to Peace Corps employees, contractors, or V/Ts or the agency

WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT MISMANAGEMENT?

The Kate Puzey Volunteer Protection Act of 2011 emphasizes the right of V/T to report to OIG instances where sexual assault allegations have been mishandled or treated inappropriately.

WHAT IS THE PROTECT ACT?

The Prosecutorial and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act authorizes criminal prosecution of Americans who have sexual contact with minors or otherwise sexually abuse children abroad.

HOTLINE: 202.692.2915 OR OIG@PEACECORPS.GOV

POST EVALUATION NOTIFICATION LETTER TO VOLUNTEERS



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

To: Peace Corps/[country name] Volunteers
From: Kathy Buller, Inspector General
Date: [date]
Subject: The Upcoming OIG Evaluation of Peace Corps/[country name]

Senior Evaluator [name] of Peace Corps' Office of Inspector General (OIG) will visit Peace Corps/[country name] to conduct a country program evaluation on or about [date]. The OIG is an independent office within the Peace Corps, which reports to the Director of the Peace Corps and to the Congress. The OIG is responsible for promoting integrity and accountability; detecting and preventing mismanagement, fraud, waste, and abuse; and enhancing effectiveness and efficiency in Peace Corps programs and operations.

The purpose of our visit is to conduct a comprehensive country program evaluation and, where appropriate, make recommendations intended to improve program operations in PC/[country name]. During this visit, we will interview a representative sample of Volunteers by training group, project assignment, site location, and other demographic characteristics such as age and gender. The information we receive from these interviews is critical to our assessment of post operations. These interviews will allow for in-depth discussions about your project, training, living conditions, health care, safety, staff support, and transportation. This will also provide you with an opportunity to raise issues and share your experiences as Volunteers serving in [country name]. If you are selected to be part of the sample we will plan to spend approximately one to two hours with you at your home. We will try to minimize disruptions to your normal schedules.

Post staff will make interview arrangements with selected Volunteers prior to our arrival. Volunteers who are not part of our sample may request a meeting by contacting Senior Evaluator [name] by email at [email address]. To the extent possible, we will make arrangements for as many additional meetings as our schedule allows.

We also encourage anyone who has information or concerns regarding mismanagement, fraud, waste, or abuse to contact Senior Evaluator [name] in advance of our visit, or to submit this information either via our hotline email address (OIG@peacecorps.gov) or via our internet page (<https://www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=about.leadership.inspgen.contact>). All such information will be treated with utmost discretion and your identity will remain confidential as directed by the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, and/or other federal law and regulation. Please note that Peace Corps policy expressly prohibits reprisal or retaliation for reporting information or allegations of mismanagement, fraud, waste, abuse, or other wrongdoing. [name] is looking forward to [his/her] visit to [country name]. Thank you in advance for your help.

Office of Inspector General

**Together we make a better
Peace Corps**



Reporting Hotline:
202.692.2915
OIG@peacecorps.gov
[Online Reporting Tool](#)

General Information:
www.peacecorps.gov/OIG
Follow [@PCOIG](#) on Twitter

APPENDIX B: LIST OF ACRONYMS

CD	Country Director
OCRD	Office of Civil Rights and Diversity
FECA	Federal Employees' Compensation Act
OC	Outreach Committee
OHS	Office of Health Services
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
PCMO	Peace Corps Medical Office
RPCV	Returned Peace Corps Volunteer
OSS	Office of Safety and Security

Help Promote the Integrity, Efficiency, and Effectiveness of the Peace Corps

Anyone knowing of wasteful practices, abuse, mismanagement, fraud, or unlawful activity involving Peace Corps programs or personnel should contact the Office of Inspector General. Reports or complaints can also be made anonymously.

