



# History and Overview of the IG Function

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Inspector General Institute®

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INSPECTOR GENERAL  
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## Presenter

F. Daniel Ahern, Jr  
President, Clarus Group  
[dahern@theclarusgroup.com](mailto:dahern@theclarusgroup.com)  
[www.thecclarusgroup.com](http://www.thecclarusgroup.com)  
781-878-6000



Former First Inspector General for Management  
MA Office of the Inspector General

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## Learning Objectives

- Know the historical context of the IG function
- Understand significant similarities and differences among federal, state, and local OIGs

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## What is an IG?



What do you do?



What does your  
office do?



How is it  
different from  
other oversight  
agencies?

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## IG Origins – Military History

- ▶ 1668 French Infantry & Cavalry
- ▶ Widespread application in Europe
- ▶ 1777 Continental Congress
  - Concern with army and militia training and readiness and use of resources
  - Accountability
  - Reporting concerns

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## Federal IGs – CIA

- ▶ 1952 –DCI appointed an Inspector General
  - Charge – Conduct investigations throughout the agency on behalf of the DCI; inspect the performance of missions and exercise of functions of all CIA offices and personnel
- ▶ Criticism
  - 1976 – Congressional committees cited lack of objectivity and insufficient authority and independence
  - 1987 – Congressional committees probing Iran–Contra Affair noted institutional limitations on the OIG
- ▶ 1989 Statutory IG established

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## Federal IGs – State

- ▶ 1959 – Statutory Inspector General and Comptroller for Foreign Assistance
  - Appointed by Secretary of State
  - Required to provide information to Congress
  - Granted access to other agencies' documents
- ▶ 1961 – Amendments
  - Inspector General, Foreign Assistance
  - Presidential appointee with Senate confirmation
  - Increased scope
  - Permanent budget authorization
  - Stricter provisions requiring provision of information to Congress
  - Charge included effectiveness, efficiency, and economy

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## Federal IGs – Agriculture

- ▶ 1962 House Intergovernmental Relations subcommittee investigation of Billy Sol Estes
  - Agriculture personnel “displayed a conspicuous lack of alertness”
  - Numerous investigations but no communication and coordination
- ▶ 1962 Nonstatutory Agriculture Inspector General
  - Created and appointed by Agriculture Secretary
  - Reported to Secretary only
  - Brought together audits and investigations
- ▶ 1974 Eliminated by Secretary

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## Federal IGs – HEW

- ▶ Investigations in Senate and House
- ▶ Congressman Fountain's subcommittee
- ▶ 1976 HEW Inspector General Act

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## Federal IGs – 1978 IG Act

- ▶ **Mandate:**
  - Audits and investigations
  - Promote economy, efficiency, effectiveness
  - Prevent and detect fraud and abuse
- ▶ **Dual Reporting – Agency Head & Congress**
- ▶ **Establishment IGs**
  - Appointed by President with advice and consent of Senate
  - Removal by President; reasons given to House and Senate
- ▶ **President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) established 1981**

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## Federal IGs – 1978 IG Act 1988 Amendments

- ▶ Designated Federal Entity IGs
  - Appointed by agency head
  - Removal by agency head; reasons given to House and Senate
- ▶ Powers and duties substantially the same as Establishment IGs
- ▶ Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency (ECIE) established 1992

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## Inspector General Reform Act of 2008

- ▶ Established the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) unifying the PCIE and the ECIE
- ▶ Codified Integrity Committee established by Executive Order in 1996 to review allegations of wrongdoing by the IG or senior IG staff
- ▶ Required 30-day prior notice of proposed removal of an IG
- ▶ Provided for independent counsel for OIGs

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## Other Federal IGs

- ▶ Federal Entity IGs
  - Optional under 1978 Act
  - Agency heads report annually to Congress on status and activities
  - Not subject to most provisions
- ▶ Legislative IGs
  - Architect of the Capitol
  - Capitol Police
  - Government Accountability Office
- ▶ Military IGs

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## State and Local IGs – 1970s

- ▶ 1970s – New York City
- ▶ 1972 – Michigan Social Services
- ▶ 1973 – TX Human Services
- ▶ 1977 – KY Human Services
- ▶ 1977 – KS Human Services
- ▶ 1978 – OK Human Services

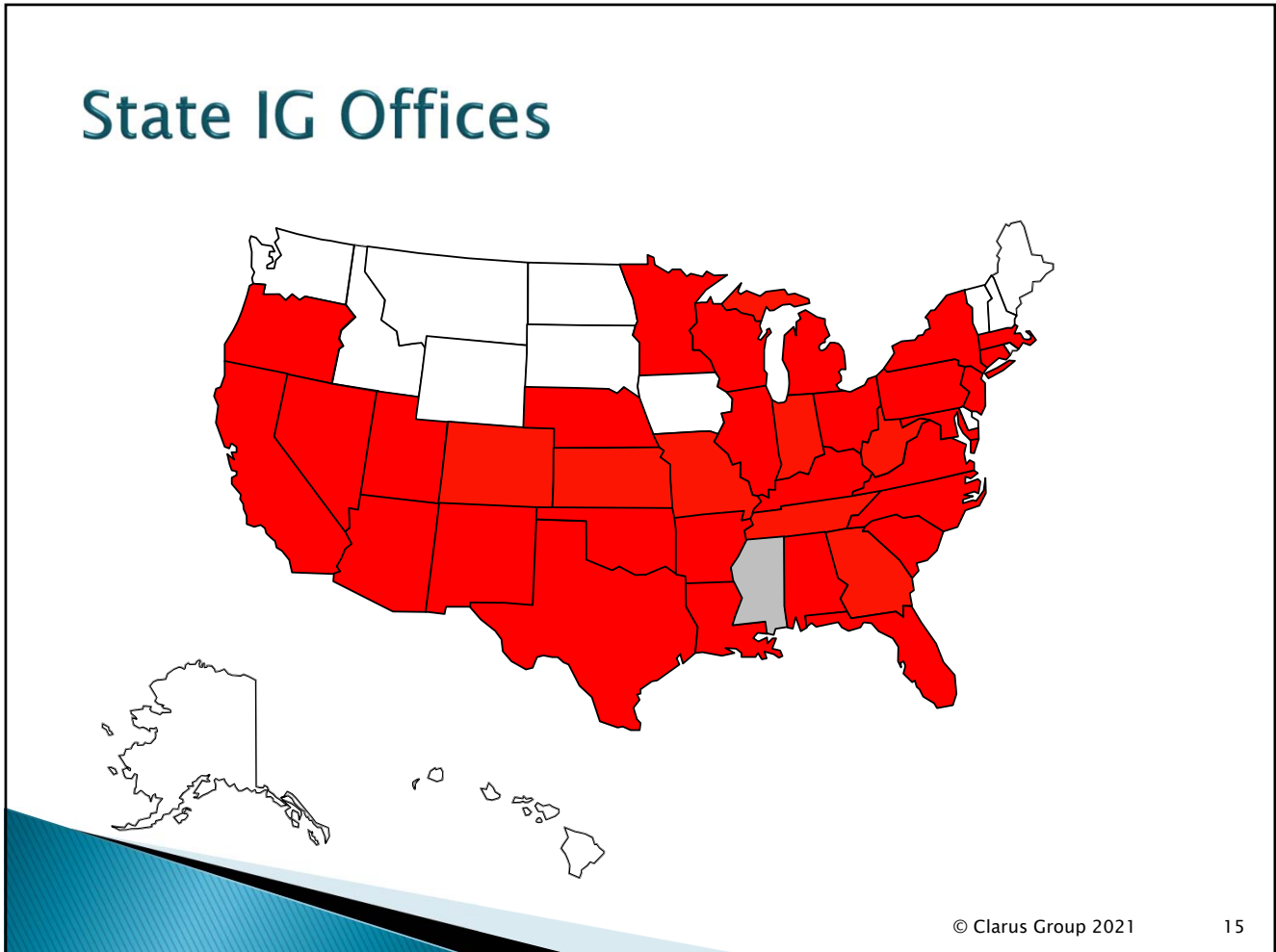
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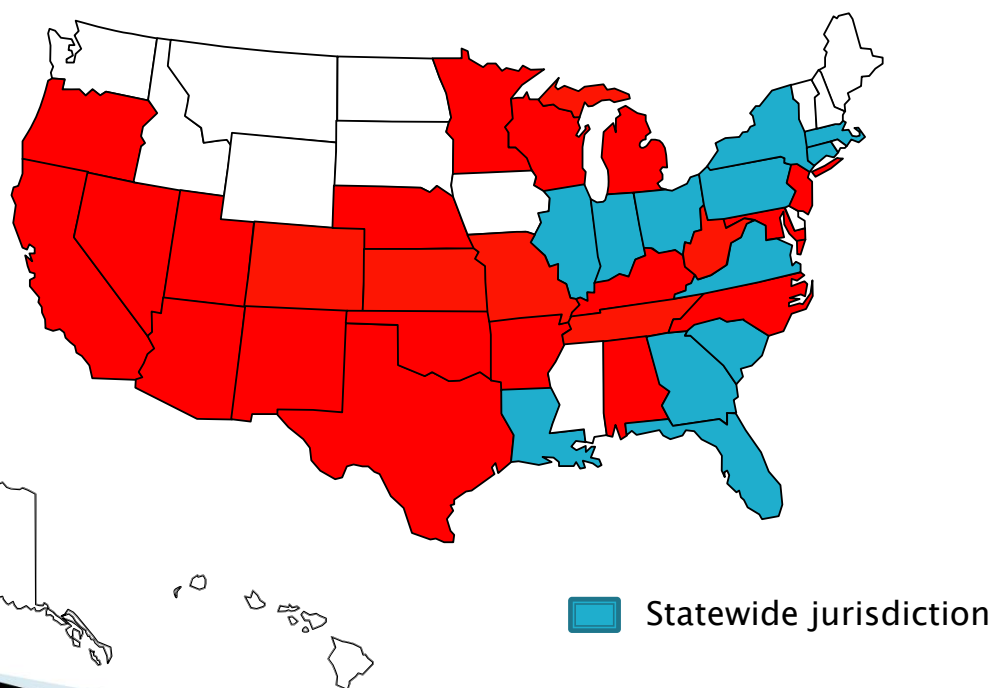
## State IG Offices



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## State IG Offices

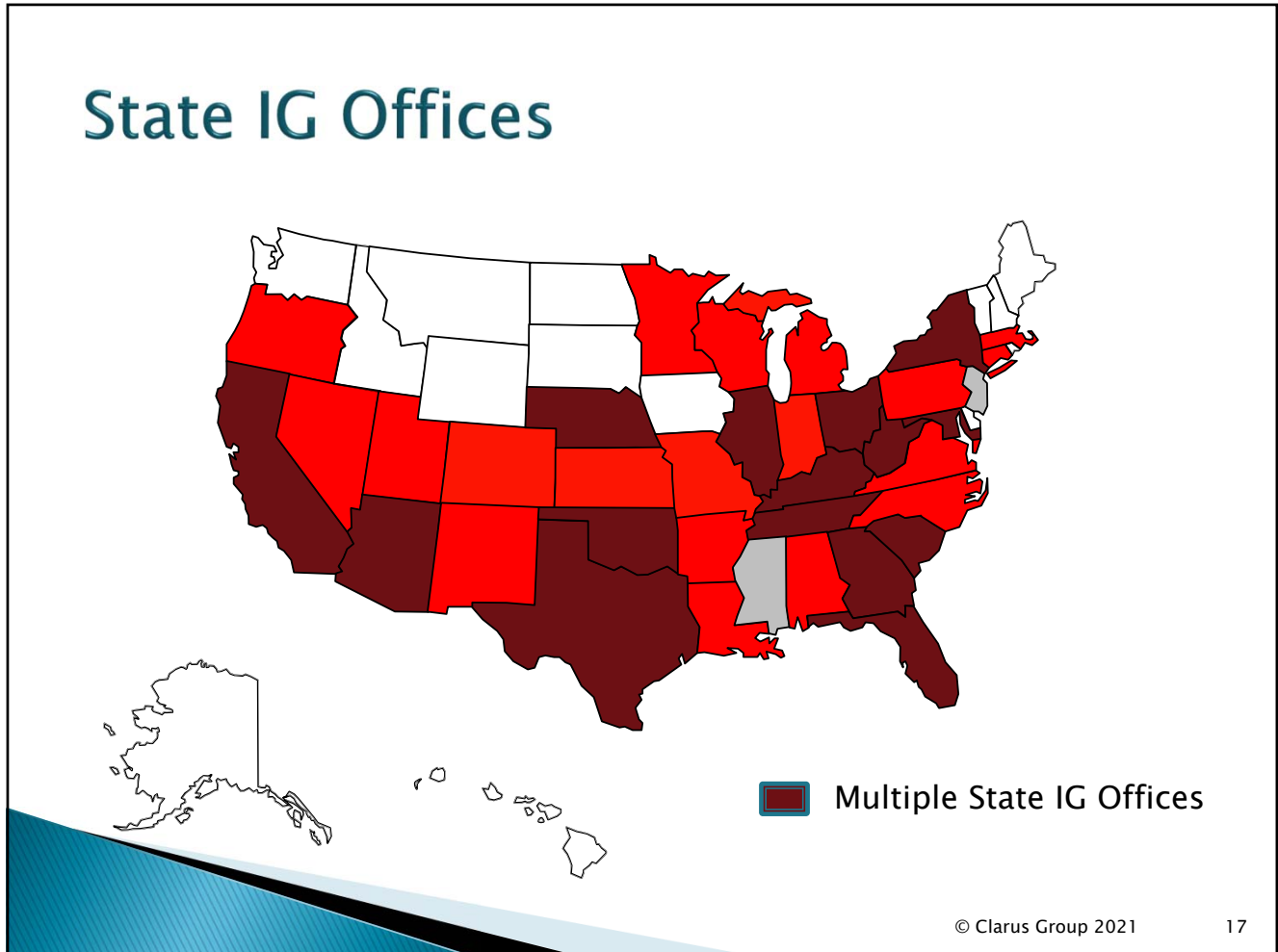


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## State IG Offices



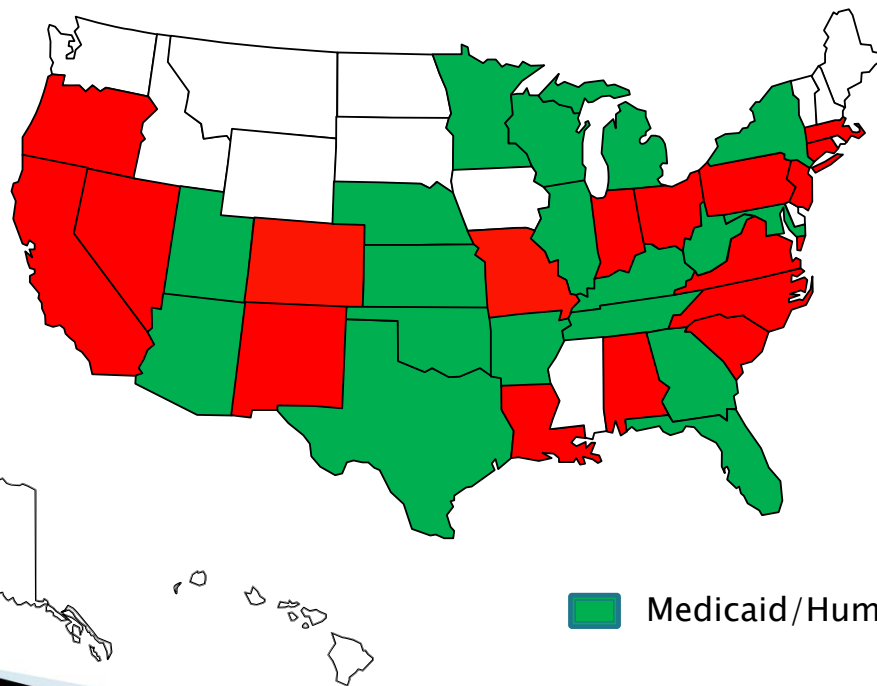
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## State IG Offices



Medicaid/Human Services

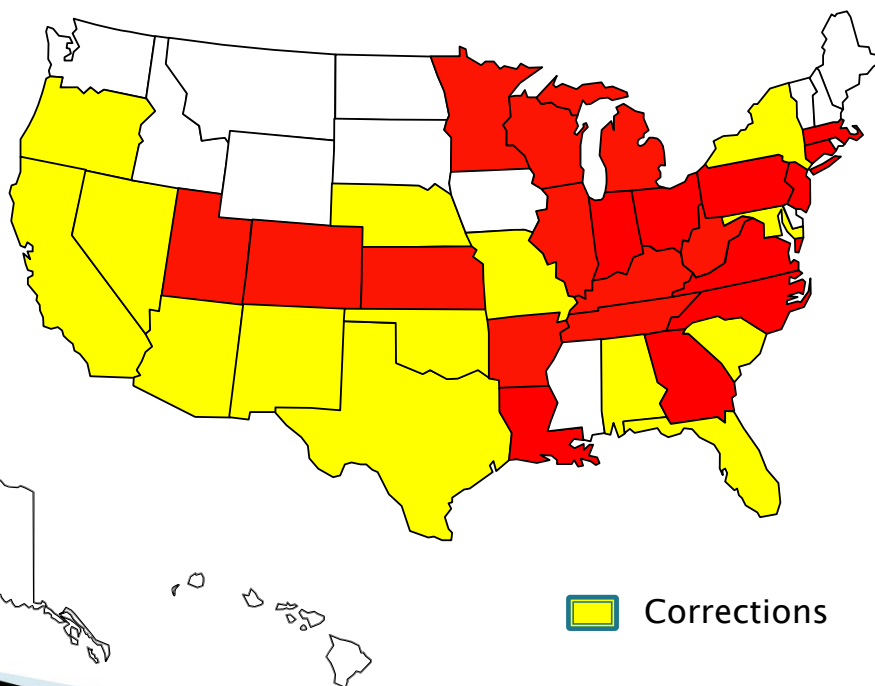
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# State IG Offices

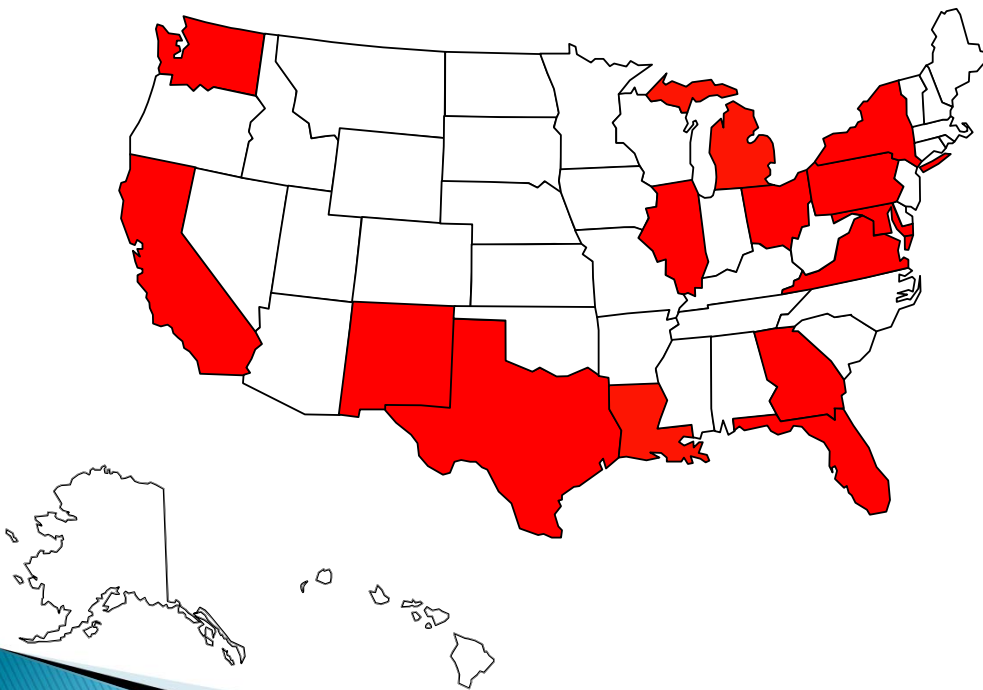


## Corrections

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## Local IG Offices



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## Major Elements of the IG Model

- ▶ Conducts audits and investigations along with other activities related to the mandate
- ▶ Charged with
  - promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness
  - Preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse
- ▶ Broad authority extending to the actions of officials, personnel, contractors, and program beneficiaries
- ▶ IG is independent, nonpartisan, appointed on basis of integrity and qualifications

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## Variation Among OIGs

- ▶ Federal civilian OIGs generally have similar missions and authority but vary considerably scope and resources
- ▶ Military OIGs
- ▶ Greater variation among state and local OIGs
  - Scope of responsibility
  - Specifics of mandate and authority
  - Extent of independence
  - Areas of emphasis

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## Adoption of the IG Model

- ▶ Growth over time at the federal level
- ▶ Significant and continuing adoption at the state, regional, and local level
- ▶ Adoption by various nations and international organizations

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