



Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Inspector General

News Release

Washington, DC 20420
202-461-4720 or
vaoigmedia@va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 14, 2025

VA Office of Inspector General, IPR Center Partner to Protect Medical Supply Chain for Veterans

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General (VA OIG) and the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center) today announced “Operation Genuine Valor” (OGV), a multiagency initiative designed to protect the VA supply chain against the infiltration of counterfeit, unapproved, substandard, and noncompliant medical devices, equipment, and pharmaceuticals.

“When the VA medical supply chain is compromised, it puts the health and safety of veterans at risk,” said VA Inspector General Cheryl L. Mason. “Our partnership with the IPR Center for ‘Operation Genuine Valor’ demonstrates the VA OIG’s commitment to protecting veterans by identifying vulnerabilities, enforcing compliance, and addressing threats.”

“The signing of this charter highlights the critical role partnerships play in our mission at the IPR Center. By sharing information, conducting proactive investigations, and working together, we’re ensuring veterans receive the quality care they deserve. This agreement reinforces our commitment to combining our expertise in investigation, enforcement, and regulatory compliance to protect those who’ve sacrificed so much for our country. Our veterans risked their lives for our freedoms, and now it’s our turn to protect them,” said Ivan Arvelo, Director of the IPR Center.

OGV efforts protect the health and safety of veterans by leveraging the combined expertise and authority of participating agencies in investigations, enforcement actions, and regulatory compliance. OGV uses a holistic approach to ensuring the integrity of VA’s medical supply chain that includes data analytics, proactive investigations, strategic partnerships, and educational outreach to VA staff.

About the VA OIG

The mission of the VA OIG is to serve veterans and the public by conducting meaningful independent oversight of VA. The OIG performs audits, inspections, investigations, and reviews that improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity of VA’s programs and services. To report potential crimes, waste, gross mismanagement, or abuse of authority involving VA, contact the OIG hotline at www.va.gov/oig/hotline/default.asp

About the IPR Center

The IPR Center, where “Protection is our Trademark,” was established to address the theft of innovation that poses a risk to economic stability and public health. The Center is instrumental in developing initiatives, coordinating enforcement actions, and sharing information related to intellectual property theft and trade fraud. To learn more, visit iprcenter.gov.

###