



Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Inspector General

News Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2026

VA Office of Inspector General Stops Over \$2 Billion in Fraudulent Activity

WASHINGTON—The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) announced today that it has successfully stopped more than \$2 billion in fraudulent activity from January 2025 to June 2026, marking a significant accomplishment in its ongoing commitment to safeguard veterans' benefits and protect taxpayer dollars. In addition, fraud enforcement by the VA OIG totaled more than \$600 million.

"The VA OIG stands vigilant, determined to uncover deception and protect the benefits and care our veterans have earned," said Inspector General Cheryl L. Mason. "Our investigators, auditors, and inspectors work tirelessly to ensure that every dollar is spent with integrity, and those who seek to exploit these programs are brought to justice."

The VA OIG made significant strides in fighting fraud and other crimes nationwide. During this period, there were 477 arrests, 333 convictions, and over \$3.4 billion in monetary recoveries. Cases included disability compensation, cybercrime, COVID-19 relief scams, pension/fiduciary fraud, education scams, healthcare schemes, and stolen valor. This was achieved with 14 percent fewer staff.

As a member of the White House Task Force to Eliminate Fraud, the VA OIG strives to deliver a return on investment of taxpayer dollars, restore social trust, and participate in cross-government responsiveness. The VA OIG encourages the public, veterans, and VA employees to join the fight against fraud by reporting any suspicious activity to the VA OIG hotline at www.vaoig.gov.

The mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General is to conduct independent oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs that combats fraud, waste, and abuse and improves the effectiveness and efficiency of programs and operations that provide for the health and welfare of veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. www.vaoig.gov

For more information about the White House Task Force to Eliminate Fraud visit www.whitehouse.gov/fraud/.

###