

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

1400 K STREET NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20424

March 10, 2025

The Honorable Colleen Duffy Kiko Chairman Federal Labor Relations Authority

Dear Chairman Kiko:

This letter communicates the results of the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) annual review of the Federal Labor Relations Authority's (FLRA) compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA)<sup>1</sup> for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 (Report No. MAR-25-03).

The OIG reviewed the improper payment information section of the FY 2024 FLRA *Performance and Accountability Report* (PAR) and other material to determine FLRA's compliance with certain requirements of the PIIA, in accordance with Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-21-19, Appendix C to OMB Circular A-123, *Requirements for Payment Integrity Improvement* (Mar. 5, 2021). OMB M-21-19 outlines the 10 PIIA requirements that the FLRA must follow.

#### BACKGROUND

On March 2, 2020, the PIIA was enacted to improve efforts to identify and reduce government-wide improper payments. Agencies are required to identify and review all programs and activities they administer that may be susceptible to significant improper payments based on guidance provided by the OMB. Payment integrity information is published with the agency's annual financial statement in accordance with payment integrity guidance in OMB Circular A-136, *Financial Reporting Requirements*. The agency must also publish any applicable payment integrity information required in the accompanying materials to the annual financial statement in accordance with relevant guidance. The most common accompanying materials to the annual financial statement are the payment integrity information published on PaymentAccuracy.gov.<sup>2</sup> Agencies' Inspectors General are to review payment integrity reporting for compliance and issue an annual report.

#### **REVIEW RESULTS**

We determined FLRA was compliant with PIIA reporting requirements for FY 2024. FLRA published improper payment information in the PAR for FY 2024, posted the PAR on the

<sup>1</sup> Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019, Pub. L. No. 116-117 (Mar. 2, 2020) (codified at 31 U.S.C. §§ 3351-3358).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This information is provided by the agency to OMB through the Annual Data Call and is then subsequently published on PaymentAccuracy.gov.

agency website, and included the required link to accompanying materials on PaymentAccuracy.gov.

If an agency does not meet one or more of the below requirements, then it is not compliant with the PIIA. FLRA complied with the requirements of the PIIA, in accordance with OMB M-21-19. Table 1 below identifies the 10 PIIA requirements, and FLRA's compliance.

	FLRA's Compliance With the Requirements of PIIA and OMB Guidance						
OMB Requirements for PIIA		FLRA	OIG Review				
	Compliance	Compliant					
1	Published Payment Integrity	Yes	The PAR is published on FLRA's website				
	information with the annual		and reported applicable PIIA information in				
	financial statement.		accordance with payment integrity guidance				
			provided in OMB Circular A-136.				
2	Posted the annual financial	Yes	The PAR is published on FLRA's website,				
	statement and accompanying		which includes a link to				
	materials on the agency		PaymentAccuracy.gov.				
3	website.	N/A	ELDA has a risk assassment process is				
3	Conducted Improper Payments (IPs) risk	IN/A	FLRA has a risk assessment process in place for determining whether FLRA has				
	assessments for each program		programs or activities susceptible to				
	with annual outlays greater		significant improper payments. FLRA				
	than \$10,000,000 at least once		determined that its programs and activities				
	in the last 3 years.		were not susceptible to significant improper				
			payments. FLRA performed its most recent				
			risk assessment in FY 2022.				
4	Adequately concluded	N/A	FLRA has a risk assessment program and				
	whether the program is likely		the methodology used adequately concludes				
	to make IPs and Unknown		whether the program is likely to make IPs				
	Payments (UPs) above or		and UPs above or below the statutory				
	below the statutory threshold.		threshold.				
5	Published IP and UP estimates	N/A <sup>3</sup>	This requirement was not applicable as none				
	for programs susceptible to		of FLRA's programs or activities were				
	significant IPs and UPs in the		determined to be susceptible to significant				
	accompanying materials to the		improper payments and unknown payments.				
6	annual financial statement.  Published corrective action	N/A	All programs were measured at low risk.  This requirement was not applicable as none				
0	plans for each program for	IN/A	of FLRA's programs or activities were				
	which an estimate above the		determined to be susceptible to significant				
	statutory threshold was		improper payments and unknown payments.				
	published in the		No programs reached the statutory				
	accompanying materials to the		threshold.				
	annual financial statement.						
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Requirement is not applicable because FLRA determined in its most recent risk assessment that the agency's programs are not susceptible to significant improper payments.

	FLRA's Compliance With the Requirements of PIIA and OMB Guidance						
	7	Published an IP and UP reduction target for each program for which an estimate above the statutory threshold was published in the accompanying materials to the annual financial	N/A	This requirement was not applicable as none of FLRA's programs or activities were determined to be susceptible to significant improper payments and unknown payments above the statutory threshold.			
	8	Demonstrated improvements to payment integrity or reached a tolerable IP and UP rate.  Developed a plan to meet the	N/A	This requirement was not applicable as none of FLRA's programs or activities were determined to be susceptible to significant improper payments and unknown payments.  This requirement only applies if the			
		IP and UP reduction target.		program reported an IP and UP estimate above the statutory threshold in the current year and established an IP and UP reduction target for the following FY. Therefore, this requirement was not applicable.			
]	10	Reported an IP and UP estimate of less than 10% for each program for which an estimate was published in the accompanying materials to the annual financial statement.	N/A	FLRA determined that none of its programs or activities were susceptible to significant improper payments and unknown payments. Therefore, this requirement was not applicable.			

## **Published Improper Payment Information**

FLRA published its PAR on the budget and performance page of the FLRA public website. The FY 2024 report included a link to PaymentAccuracy.gov.

For FY 2024, FLRA responded to the OMB Annual Data Call with the required fields of information. We reviewed FLRA's entries into PaymentAccuracy.gov and have documented them below.

### FLRA Information Submitted to PaymentAccuracy.gov

## FLRA Executive Summary FY 2024

The Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) remains committed to fiscal responsibility and diligent stewardship of taxpayer dollars. As part of our ongoing efforts, FLRA operates on a three-year improper Payment risk assessment cycle. The results of our most recent risk assessment conducted in FY 22 reaffirmed that FLRA's programs are not likely to be susceptible to significant improper payments, demonstrating our effective management and financial

integrity. FLRA is currently in compliance with PIIA and has no Programs with annual outlays over \$10m and therefore, does not have any programs that are susceptible to significant improper payments.

#### **Identification and Recovery of Overpayments**

Fiscal Year	Overpayment Amount Identified for Recapture (\$M)	Overpayment Amount Recovered(\$M)	Recovery Rate
2023	\$0.00M	\$0.00M	0.00%
2024	\$0.00M	\$0.00M	0.00%

### **Recovery Audits**

FLRA did not conduct any recovery audits to identify or recover overpayments during this reporting period.

<u>Justification for the Determination that it is Not Cost Effective to Conduct Recovery Audits in Certain Programs</u>

The IPERA also requires agencies to conduct payment-recapture audits for each program that expends \$1 million or more annually, if conducting such audits would be cost-effective. Based on the criteria set forth in Appendix C of OMB Circular A-123, the agency has also determined that it would not be cost-effective to establish a recovery-audit program for its programs that expend more than \$1 million. Recoveries are not expected to be greater that the costs incurred to identify any overpayments.

Names of Programs where a Recovery Audit is Not Cost Effective Not Applicable.

#### Confirmed Fraud

The agency did not have any confirmed fraud in this reporting cycle.

We reviewed FLRA's entries via PaymentAccuracy.gov and confirmed the payment recapture audit results performed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Fiscal Service. We confirmed it is unlikely that FLRA reached the significant improper payment threshold in FY 2024<sup>4</sup>

#### **Improper Payment Risk Assessment**

PIIA requires the agency to conduct an improper payment risk assessment, at least once every 3 years, for each program with annual outlays greater than \$10 million. This is done to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A significant improper payment is defined as exceeding \$10 million of all reported program or activity payments of the executive agency made during that FY and 1.5 percent of program outlays or \$100 million.

determine whether the program is likely to make improper payments that would be, in total, above the statutory threshold. The next scheduled risk assessment is due in FY 2025.

#### SCOPE AND METHODOLGY

To perform the FY 2024 compliance review, we gained an understanding of the requirements in OMB Circular A-123, Appendix C (M-21-19, March 2021), OMB Circular A-136 (May 30, 2024), OMB Annual Data Call Instructions, and the OMB Payment Integrity Question and Answer Platform. We performed the review using the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency *Guidance for Payment Integrity Information Act OIG Compliance Reviews*, dated October 22, 2024.

To answer our objective, we reviewed the agency's PAR, PaymentAccuracy.gov and the results of PIIA compliance testing performed by the independent public accountants who audited the FLRA FY 2024 financial statements. Further, during our review of relevant prior year data, nothing came to our attention that would indicate that the agency is susceptible to significant improper payments.

#### CONCLUSION

For FY 2024, we determined FLRA was compliant with the 10 reporting requirements outlined in OMB instructions under the PIIA. OIG made no recommendations.

Dana S. Looney

If you have questions, please contact me on (771) 444-5713.

Respectfully,

Dana A. Rooney Inspector General cc (via email):

The Honorable Rand Paul

Chairman

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

U.S. Senate

The Honorable Gary C. Peters

Ranking Member

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

U.S. Senate

The Honorable James Comer

Chairman

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly

Ranking Member

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Bill Hagerty

Chairman

Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

U.S. Senate

The Honorable Jack Reed

Ranking Member

Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

U.S. Senate

The Honorable David Joyce

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Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

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The Honorable Steny Hoyer

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Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

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The Honorable Deidre Harrison

Deputy Controller Performing the Duties of the Controller

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The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro Comptroller General Government Accountability Office

The Honorable Anne M. Wagner Member Federal Labor Relations Authority

Mr. Michael Jeffries Executive Director Federal Labor Relations Authority