



October 3, 2022

The Honorable Ben Cardin  
Chair  
Committee on Small Business and  
Entrepreneurship  
United States Senate  
428A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rand Paul  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Small Business and  
Entrepreneurship  
United States Senate  
428A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Science, Space, and  
Technology  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2321 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Science, Space, and  
Technology  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2321 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nydia M. Velázquez  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Small Business  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2361 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Small Business  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2069 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members:

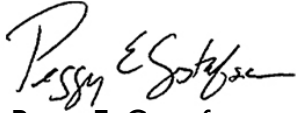
In accordance with 15 U.S.C. § 638b(c), this letter transmits the U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General's (OIG's) report of the requested data and information regarding cases related to the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program for fiscal year (FY) 2022.

During FY 2022, OIG received one referral pertaining to fraud, waste, and abuse with respect to the SBIR and/or STTR programs. Subsequently, OIG opened four actions relating to the SBIR program to include one proactive analysis investigation of SBIR awards made by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Institute of Standards and Technology; two preliminary investigations into NOAA SBIR recipients; and one formal investigation into a NOAA SBIR recipient. A total of five investigative actions remain in an open investigative status as of the date of this letter.

OIG did not close any cases during FY 2022 in which fraud, waste, or abuse was "determined to have occurred" regarding an SBIR program investigation. OIG's estimated FY 2022 expenditures involving SBIR program investigations to date was \$30,100; no funds were recovered or saved as a result of OIG's SBIR-related activities.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please contact me at (202) 793-3336 or Scott Kieffer, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations, at (202) 893-8770.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peggy E. Gustafson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peggy E. Gustafson  
Inspector General