January 31, 2020

The Honorable Russell T. Vought, Acting Director
c/o Stannis Smith
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Vought:

The Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 (Charge Card Act) and OMB’s implementing guidance require each office of inspector general (OIG) to perform annual risk assessments, as well as to submit semiannual reports to OMB, in coordination with the Department, of employee purchase or integrated card violations and the resulting actions taken. Where annual travel card spending for an agency exceeds $10 million, the Charge Card Act and OMB M-13-21 require periodic audit or reviews of the agency’s travel card program. In fiscal year (FY) 2018, the Department had $30.1 million in travel card expenses. OIGs must also submit an annual purchase and travel card audit recommendation status report to OMB. Below is a summary of the actions we have taken during FY 2019 to fulfill these requirements, as well as additional information on our related work.

We provided information regarding known and completed reviews and investigations of fraudulent use or abuse of purchase cards that resulted in fraud, loss to the government, or misappropriation of funds or assets for the Department’s July 2019 and January 2020 reports to OMB. Currently, there are no open recommendations concerning the use of government cards.

While we did not conduct a travel card audit or review of FY 2018 transactions, we did conduct a risk assessment for illegal, improper, or erroneous FY 2018 purchase card, travel card, and fleet card transactions. We based the risk assessment on an analysis of trends and variances from the previous year. We assessed each bureau, and the resulting scores determined the bureaus fell within a reasonable range of risk. The composite risk score of all the bureaus decreased one percent from FY 2017 to FY 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 482-2877.

Sincerely,

Richard Bachman
Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation