

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



Press Statement

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WASHINGTON – Statement of Inspector General Sean O'Donnell on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General's <u>project notification announcing an inquiry into the Jackson, Mississippi, drinking water emergency</u> issued today:

"Given the magnitude of the water crisis in Jackson, Mississippi, it is critical that the EPA OIG act with a sense of urgency to understand what has happened in that community. I have directed a multi-disciplinary team of oversight professionals to look into Jackson's drinking water system. We have begun the process of conducting interviews and collecting data related to the oversight of the water system and administration of the state's water revolving funds. That information will provide a basis for decisions about additional work to follow."

The OIG is an independent office within the EPA that performs audits, evaluations, and investigations of the EPA and the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, and their contractors, and prevents and detects fraud, waste and abuse. For more information, visit our website and follow the OIG on Twitter and LinkedIn. Anyone with knowledge of potential fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement related to this inquiry should contact the Office of Inspector General's hotline at (888) 546-8740 or via an electronic form at OIG Hotline.