



# IG Bulletin



NOVEMBER 2016

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

IG Observations	1
Conduct Random Urinalysis	1
Cold Weather Injuries	2
Upcoming Inspections	2

## Inspector General Observations

By LTC Gregory S. Vinciguerra, Command Inspector General



The Inspectors General (IG) Office is a useful resource not only for Command teams, but for every level of Officer and Soldier on this installation. The IG office is comprised of 11 Officers/Noncommissioned Officers and one civilian that tackle three primary functions for the CG: conduct inspections, investigations and provide assistance to those stationed at Fort Sill. We spend quite a bit of our time conducting inspections through-

out post, and thankfully very few investigations, however the bulk of our time is spent assisting individuals with questions or issues. Though we attempt to help anyone who comes to our office the fullest extent possible, AR 20-1, IG Activities and Procedures dictates what we are allowed to assist with, called IG appropriateness. In this article, we will shed light on different issues IGs are permitted to assist with, and how it differs between Soldiers and Civilians.

Restrictions on IG duties and activities are designed to reduce conflicts of interest and maintain impartiality. IGs do not make command policy, recommend adverse personnel actions, or do anything that may jeopardize their ability to function as fair and impartial fact-finders. Being an IG is like being an umpire who calls balls and strikes without concern for

the score of the game.

IGs will assist with cases that violate policy or regulation as well as military offenses such as violations to orders, dereliction of duty, and conduct unbecoming an NCO or officer. However, if the IG receives a request for assistance or allegation of a criminal nature, we must refer them to the Criminal Investigation Command (CID) or Provost Marshall (PM). In addition, IGs are not supposed to intervene in situations that have other means of redress or remedy until the complainant has exhausted all administrative remedies, including appeal procedures. IGs can only review that proper procedures were followed in such cases, however we will assist the individual to understand the correct procedures that need to be taken, and help them get in contact with the correct office. Other areas that are considered not appropriate for IGs interven-

tion include: court-martial, non-judicial punishment, evaluation reports, involuntary separation actions, reports of survey, reprimands, claims, and complaints made under UCMJ.

IG intervention is also inappropriate for civilian employee grievances, appeals of adverse employee actions, Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) complaints, and other matters that affect employment. If procedures exist within a regulation or system for correcting errors, improprieties, or injustices, IGs must allow all such procedures to run their course before intervening. Civilian complaints involving matters that do not directly affect the employment, situation, or well-being of the individual can be addressed by an IG.

See Observations Page 2

## Changes to the Conduct of Random Urinalysis

By SFC Mark L. Monhollen, Assistant Inspector General

Every month it seems every unit is conducting some kind of urinalysis. This is mandated by Army Regulation 600-85, The Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP). However, Army Directive 2016-15 (Change in the Army's Random Deterrence Drug Testing Program) dated 22 April 2016 has made some significant changes to AR 600-85. Prior to this directive, the Battalion Unit Prevention Leader (UPL) would manage urinalysis by randomly selecting 4-5% of the Battalion strength weekly. Furthermore, Company/Battery level UPLs would rotate weekly to conduct specimen collection. As we know, this became a burden for the majority of units to execute. While serving as the acting Secretary of the Army early this

year, Patrick J. Murphy signed Army Directive 2016-15 which states, "Effective immediately, the requirements to conduct weekly urinalysis is rescinded." Commanders will ensure 10% of Soldiers within their formation are randomly selected for testing every month. The Unit Prevention Leader should utilize the Inspection Random (IR) code when testing Soldiers during the first three quarters of each fiscal year. One additional requirement that units have failed to conduct is the fourth quarter urinalysis which states that "Soldiers not selected for random urinalysis during the first three quarters of each fiscal year will be selected for testing during the fourth quarter using the inspection other (IO) test basis code." In basic terms, anyone that was not tested dur-

ing the first three quarters of the fiscal year will be tested during fourth quarter of each fiscal year. It is advised that Commanders do not use a unit sweep testing to meet this requirement, but utilize this time wisely during fourth quarter which is from 1 July - 30 September to meet standards.

See Changes Page 2



## Cold Weather Injuries

By SFC Eric P. Castillo, Assistant Inspector General



Move over summer, fall and winter are on the way! It's that time of year when the "comfy" clothes make their way to the front of the closet. Temperatures will begin to drop as daylight

hours start to get shorter. Cooler temperatures bring on a different set of injuries requiring awareness. Cold weather injuries can happen regardless of your gender, age, level of fitness, or rank. The typical cold weather injury occurs with individuals approximately 20 years old and the grade of E-4 or below. These individuals are usually from a warm climate and not acclimated to cold weather. Individuals who use alcohol, tobacco, certain medications, or have experienced previous cold weather injuries are more prone and susceptible to the cold effecting them.

According to TB MED 508, Prevention and Management of Cold Weather Injuries, it is important to utilize cold weather clothing properly. The Army uses the acronym C.O.L.D. The acronym stands for keep it **CLEAN**, avoid **OVERHEATING**, wear clothing **LOOSE** and in layers, and keep clothing **DRY**. It is important to dress in layers and avoid wearing tight-fitting clothes. Dressing this way creates pockets of air between the layers of clothing to insulate you and helps improve your circulation.

Cold weather injuries can happen when the right conditions are met. It does not have to be freezing temperatures outside. If you or a buddy exhibit these signs, do not hesitate to seek help because these injuries could require medical attention. Chilblain is skin that is reddened and slightly swollen and gives the individual a prickly feeling or burning sensation. Chilblain, left untreated, can lead to more severe cold weather injuries. Frostbite is frozen tissue that feels solid to the touch. Those suffering from frostbite will have loss of feeling to that area or a tingling sensation in the affected area with variations of white, gray, red, yellow, or waxy looking skin. Trench foot or Immersion foot is a numbness in the feet accompanied by burning sensations and pain. Tissue will appear pale and slightly blue in more severe cases. The mixture of cold and moisture softens skin causing tissue loss and possibly infection. Hypothermia, if not treated quickly, can potentially become fatal. Hypothermia is a condition of unusually low core body temperature which occurs when an individual's heat loss exceeds the body's heat production. Signs and symptoms of hypothermia change as your body temperature starts to drop. In the early stages of hypothermia, the most common sign is shivering.

An individual may deny they are experiencing any cold weather injuries, but we must focus on the signs and symptoms. Get the individual out of the cold, replace any wet clothing, and give them warm fluids to drink. Prevention and early detection are essential in how we combat cold weather injuries.

### Observations cont.

We address cases such as those against a third party or reports of alleged misconduct, mismanagement, or other matters requiring command attention.

The bottom line, however, is that if a Soldier or employee comes to the IG office and presents a matter that is a concern of theirs, the IG will work with the individual to ensure it is either addressed or referred to the appropriate agency so not to inadvertently deprive anyone of his or her right to due process. IGs take assisting personnel with their individual concerns seriously because at the end of the day, it is each of our duties to contribute to making FCoE and Fort Sill run as efficiently and productively as possible.

### Changes cont.

In addition, depending on each unit's policy or standard operating procedure (SOP), he/she could request a unit sweep when they deem that is necessary to maintain good order and discipline. Remember, this is a Commander's Program and usually they designate the unit UPL to act on their behalf. Unit Prevention Leaders at all levels should be aware of this and enforce this directive to the fullest until it is rescinded or installed in the next publication of AR 600-85. If leaders have questions to this, please seek guidance from the USAFCoEFS Army Substance Abuse Program personnel.

## Upcoming Inspections

The Fort Sill Inspector General typically conducts at least one special inspection (directed by the CG) every quarter; and sometimes more when a special situation dictates the necessity. Other Inspectors General (e.g. DAIG, FORSCOM IG, TRADOC IG, SRMC IG) also conduct annual and quarterly inspections. Inspections do not always affect all units and coordination directly with the affected units will occur as soon as details are known. The following are the inspections that are currently on the calendar that will potentially affect Fort Sill units and directorates.

DATE	Inspecting Agency	Units Affected	Inspection Topic
31 OCT 16– 04 NOV16	FORSCOM IG	75th FA , 31st ADA, Select Installation Directorates	Deployment Readiness Exercise
05 Dec 2016	TRADOC IG	30th ADA	Property Accountability
February 17	FOCE IG	TBD	Intelligence Oversight

### Contact Information

phone: (580) 442-3109/3224

Bldg. 1616 Randolph Road



Office of the Inspector General,  
USAFCOEFS



BLDG 1643 Randolph Road  
Fort Sill, OK 73503

### *Inspector General Mission*

*The Office of the Inspector General provides assistance, teaches and trains, and conducts inspections and investigations as directed by the Commanding General for and throughout the United States Army Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill in order to assist commanders in achieving disciplined and combat-ready units and to maintain the operational effectiveness of the command.*

### **For questions or assistance, or to file a complaint:**

Comm: 580-442-6007/3224

DSN: 639-3224

E-mail:

[usarmy.sill.fcoe.mbx.fort-sill-inspector-general@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.sill.fcoe.mbx.fort-sill-inspector-general@mail.mil)

*“Droit-et-Avant”*



*“Right-then-Forward”*

### **We're on the Web!!**

<http://sill-www.army.mil/USAG/IG/index.html>

or

 <https://www.facebook.com/FCoEIG/> 