

BALTIMORE CITY OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL ADVISORY BOARD

100 Holiday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 30, 2023

Baltimore City Council
Eric Costello
100 Holliday St, Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Councilman Costello:

I am writing on behalf of the newly elected OIG Advisory Board requesting Council support for the creation of a new Budget Service Number for the Ethics Board to separate Ethics from the OIG Budget in the next Budget cycle.

The OIG investigates allegations of misconduct by City of Baltimore employees and contractors, as well as oversees all ethics reporting requirements of City employees and lobbyists. Although the mere existence of the OIG serves as a valuable deterrent, one tangible way to measure the performance of the OIG is to compare the annual cost of the office with the quantifiable savings. This measure is distorted by the fact that the annual budget of the OIG office includes the costs of the ethics reporting. The creation of the new Budget Service Number eliminates this distortion and provides for a more accurate measurement of an important facet of the duties of the OIG. In addition,

The proposed new Budget Service Code would:

- Clearly defined expenditures for both departments
- Allow for the ability to track each budget and identify required enhancements; and
- Promote public transparency for both departments.

As such the Board unanimously recommends the separation of the Ethics and OIG offices by creating a new Budget Service Number.

Thanking you in advance for your support as the new board continues to review, enhance, and assure efficiency associated with the City's quest to provide transparency associated with employees, officials, departments, and lobbyists.

Respectfully,

Gayle B. Guilford

Chairperson

Baltimore City OIG Advisory Board