

Office of the County Auditor

Auditor's Analysis

Council Bill No. 47-2024

Introduced: July 1, 2024

Auditor: Rebecca Gold

Fiscal Impact:

Costs associated with this legislation cannot be estimated at this time. Expenses associated with establishing the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) may include, among other items:

- Compensation for the Inspector General, Deputy Inspector General, and other employees as appointed by the Inspector General
- Rental fees or lease payments for office space if County owned facilities are not available
- Office furniture, equipment, and supplies
- Subpoena preparation and issuance expenses
- Inspector General Advisory Board expenses

Purpose:

The purpose of this legislation is to establish the Office of the Inspector General and create an Inspector General Advisory Board.

Other Comments:

Compensation

The salary grades for the Inspector General, Deputy Inspector General, and other employees as appointed by the Inspector General have yet to be determined.

For reference:

- The Inspector General position¹ in Montgomery County, Maryland, had a salary range of between \$130,262 and \$221,446 in FY 2023.
- In 2023, the Baltimore City Office of the Inspector General² included a staff of 18 employees and had a budget of \$2,331,164.

¹ Source:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HR/Resources/Files/Classification/Compensation%20Documents/FY22-23%20Fix/FY23%20IG.pdf>

² Source: <https://inspector-general.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/Annual%20Report%202023.pdf>

Rental or Lease Expenses

- The Real Estate Services Division confirmed that a physical location has not yet been determined for the OIG. Potential lease or rental costs are unknown.

Subpoena Expenses

- The legislation authorizes the Inspector General to issue subpoenas. Personnel costs associated with this issuance can vary widely depending on complexity, according to information provided by the Office of Law (OOL), which has the authority to issue subpoenas. The OOL also provided a 2023 price list of subpoena services. Process server costs for a Howard County subpoena started at \$70 per service with additional fees for advanced person search and rush services.