



Office of Inspector General United States Department of State



Cardell K. Richardson, Sr. **U.S Department of State Inspector General**

The Honorable Cardell K. Richardson, Sr., was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on May 2, 2024, as the Inspector General (IG) for the U.S. Department of State (Department) in the Office of Inspector General (State OIG). IG Richardson is the independent senior official responsible for overseeing more than 70,000 Department and U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) employees, 270 overseas missions and other facilities worldwide, and more than \$75 billion in Department, USAGM, and foreign assistance resources. IG Richardson is charged with keeping Congress and agency heads fully and currently informed of State OIG's efforts to promote efficiency, economy, and effectiveness resulting from its audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations. IG Richardson also serves as the Associate Inspector General for designated overseas contingency operations.

Prior to joining State OIG, IG Richardson served as IG of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). During his tenure at NGA, IG Richardson served in numerous other senior leadership positions, including roles as the Deputy Chief Operation Officer, Director of Source Operations, and Deputy Director of Security and Installations. Additionally, IG Richardson served as NGA Equality Executive and Director of the Office of Diversity Management and Equal Employment Opportunity. IG Richardson is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel.

IG Richardson holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from Howard University, a Master of Public Administration degree from Webster University, and a master's degree in National Resource Strategy from National Defense University. IG Richardson is the proud two-time recipient of the prestigious Presidential Rank Award for high-performing senior executives.