



## Office of the Inspector General Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### **Inspector General Cunha Selects Leadership Team for Newly Created Bureau, August 2013**

Massachusetts Inspector General Glenn A. Cunha has named two people to lead the Commonwealth's Bureau of Program Integrity (BPI), the newly created office responsible for preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse in the state's public benefit programs.

Following a competitive selection process, Inspector General Cunha has appointed Julie Lavin Flaherty as Director of the Bureau of Program Integrity.

"Julie brings a wide range of skills to this important role in state government," said Cunha. "She is an accomplished attorney with strong interpersonal skills that will serve her well in this unique position. For the past twenty years, Julie has demonstrated an impressive commitment to public service from prosecuting violent offenders to protecting the rights of victims."

For more than 10 years, Flaherty has served in the Child Support Enforcement Division at the Department of Revenue (DOR), where she managed program initiatives and projects aimed at promoting the safe collection of child support. She has supervised domestic violence specialists, provided training to staff, and analyzed and drafted policies and legislation for DOR. She has also worked with other state agencies, including the Division of Transitional Assistance. Prior to her work at DOR, Flaherty served as an Assistant District Attorney in Norfolk and Plymouth counties where she prosecuted cases from assault and battery to first degree murder. She is a graduate of Boston College and Boston College Law School.

Jeanmarie Carroll, Norfolk County First Assistant District Attorney said, "Julie developed a reputation for hard work, skill and great personal integrity in the Norfolk District Attorney's office. Three Norfolk District Attorneys trusted her with investigations and prosecutions of the highest complexity and importance, including homicide."

Revenue Commissioner Amy Pitter said, "Julie's work at the Department of Revenue has contributed significantly to the success of our child support enforcement program. Thanks to Julie's effort in developing new protocols for managing clients with safety concerns, our day-to-day case management practices continue to be a national model."

Inspector General Cunha has appointed Jason Cofield as Senior Counsel to the BPI. Cofield started his legal career at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office prosecuting various crimes, including public assistance fraud and corruption by law enforcement officers. For the past two-and-a-half years, Cofield has investigated and prosecuted cases in the Attorney General's Public Integrity Division. He is a graduate of Boston University and Boston College Law School.

The Bureau of Program Integrity (BPI), established by Section 17 of Chapter 38 of the Acts of

2013, is responsible for monitoring the quality, efficiency and integrity of public benefit programs administered by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS). BPI is independent of EOHHS and is mandated to seek to prevent, detect and correct fraud, waste and abuse in the expenditure of public funds for benefit programs, including, but not limited to, transitional aid to families with dependent children; MassHealth; emergency assistance to elders, disabled and children; the supplemental nutrition assistance program; and other assistance benefits distributed via electronic benefit cards. The Director of BPI is appointed and supervised by the Massachusetts Inspector General and all BPI staff are employees of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

Bureau of Program Integrity Enabling Statute and Reporting Mandate - Sections 17 and 184 of Chapter 38 of the Acts of 2013, August 2013