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**For Immediate Release**

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**COUNCIL OF INSPECTORS GENERAL HONORS HUD OIG**

Washington, DC – The Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) honored the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Inspector General (HUD OIG) with four awards for Excellence for their auditing and investigative work.

“These awards demonstrate our employee’s strong commitment to public service and dedication to excellence. Their exceptional work reflects well on themselves, their offices, our organization and our community. The tireless effort and innovative approach of the HUD OIG staff directly reflects what CIGIE, as a whole, represents. This is a proud moment for our organization,” said David A. Montoya, Inspector General.

**Audit Award for Excellence**

A 2014 CIGIE Award for Excellence was presented to Senior Auditor Kendra Johnson for her outstanding audit work. Ms. Johnson’s work culminated in unprecedented changes in financial management practices at HUD and led HUD management to discontinue its use of First-In-First-Out accounting methodology for determining compliance with program laws.

**Investigative Award for Excellence**

Special Agent Amy Durso received an award for excellence by CIGIE for her investigative work to improve departmental operations and address program abuses. Special Agent Durso was recognized for her significant contributions and exceptional effort in the successful prosecution of numerous impactful criminal cases.

**Multiple Disciplines Award for Excellence**

A CIGIE 2014 Award for Excellence – Multiple Disciplines was presented to the HUD OIG for their teamwork on the JPMorgan Chase False Claims against the Federal Housing

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Administration (FHA) Insurance Fund. Working with the national Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force and, more specifically, its Mortgage Fraud Working Group, HUD OIG staff collaborated with the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Offices, and HUD's Office of General Counsel to investigate and convey civil cases. These partnerships yielded a \$614 million civil settlement in which JPMorgan Chase took responsibility for not following Federal loan origination requirements on thousands of federally insured loans. Nearly \$565 million of the total settlement related specifically to the FHA program, and the FHA insurance fund will benefit significantly from a portion of the settlement.

HUD OIG staff recognized included:

- Kimberly Randall, Civil Fraud Division Director
- Michael Powell, Special Agent in Charge
- Muhammad Akhtar,
- Richard Urbanowski, Supervisory Forensic Auditor
- Anne-Marie Vanderberg, Senior Forensic Auditor
- Matthew Matczynski, Senior Forensic Auditor
- Sophia Patsios, Senior Forensic Auditor
- Lisa Tong, Senior Forensic Auditor
- Crystal Currier, Senior Forensic Auditor
- Hector Zapata, Senior Forensic Auditor
- Amber Eyster, Senior Forensic Auditor
- Martin Sullivan, Assistant Special Agent in Charge
- Michael Granatstein, Special Agent
- Clifton Cole, Director, Field Technical Support Division Data Analytics Division, and
- Timothy Bannon, Computer Audit Specialist Timothy Bannon.

### **Special Act Award for Excellence**

A CIGIE 2014 Special Act Award for Excellence was presented jointly to HUD OIG's Grant Reform Working Group for their outstanding efforts. Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit Frank Rokosz, Special Assistant Patrick Bannon, Senior Auditor George Datto and Senior Auditor Marcelo Ramiro were recognized for their teamwork.