

PETER SCHLECK

Mr. Robert Burg
Executive Vice President
Ralph Andersen & Associates
5800 Stanford Ranch Road
Suite 410
Rocklin, California 95765

Dear Mr. Burg,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss with you in greater detail my interest in the position of inspector general for the city of New Orleans, Louisiana. I offer here some additional detail for consideration by you and the Ethics Review Board.

As we generally discussed, in early 2004, it was my privilege to be recruited to design and establish an internal oversight function at the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB), which had relatively recently opened its doors as a new regulator in Washington D.C. The PCAOB was created by the Sarbanes Oxley Act in the wake of the Enron and WorldCom accounting scandals, to police the auditors of public companies. As the organization grew, my team helped evaluate the organization from the ground up. It was then that I came to “police” the (audit) police. I led a team of six accounting and legal professionals. The PCAOB’s overall operating budget in 2017 (my last year there) was approximately \$269 million, and my office budget approached \$1.8 million.

For the next 13 years, indeed, we performed a range of reviews spanning information technology, finance, human resources, and a number program operating areas and issues. We also conducted sensitive internal inquiries into employee conduct concerns. Summaries of our publicly available work products (2004-2017) may be found at the following link:

[Summaries of IOPA Performance Reviews | PCAOB \(pcaobus.org\)](#)

Still, despite all the effort, including to promote effective internal controls, the PCAOB did not remain immune from the kind of confidence-eroding public scandal brought on by the actions of only a few:

[SEC.gov | Six Accountants Charged with Using Leaked Confidential PCAOB Data in Quest to Improve Inspection Results for KPMG](#)

At times, the remaining remedy is punishing the wrongdoers. In sum, my time at the PCAOB has equipped me with a wealth of relevant experience in the role of an inspector general.

I also offer my experience at the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Inspector General (OIG) for consideration. As we also discussed, I took a job there in high school and worked in a series of progressively responsible positions through college and law school, which I attended at night. I watched and learned from many OIG professionals over my first nine years there.

In 1998, after a judicial clerkship, some time at a law firm, and at another Federal Office of Inspector General. I was recruited by a previous supervisor back to Energy OIG, as he had been nominated by the president to be the inspector general. Upon his confirmation by the U.S. Senate that same year, I served as his Special Advisor and later, Director of Program Review and Special Inquiries. At this time, I assisted the inspector general overseeing a nationwide staff of approximately 300 auditors, investigators, inspectors, and others, policing an agency with a budget of approximately \$20 billion, 16,000 Federal employees, and 100,000 contractor staff.

The following represent the publicly available results of inspector general reviews I led personally on behalf of Energy OIG (links are to the reports themselves):

[Inquiry Report: I01IG001 | Department of Energy](#)

(Allegations by Nevada U.S. Senate delegation that one of the nation's oldest and largest law firms did not disclose conflicts of interest when bidding on multi-million-dollar legal services contract concerning sensitive potential nuclear waste storage facility site).

[Audit Report: IG-0560 | Department of Energy](#)

(Expedited review of the Department of Energy's Tritium Extraction Facility, in response to concerns that this nuclear weapons-related production facility then under construction in South Carolina was over budget and behind schedule).

[Special Inquiry: IG-0610 | Department of Energy](#)

(Special inquiry requested by two U.S. Senators into whether two of three members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, including the Chair, made improper, off-the record comments about multi-billion-dollar power supply contract cases pending before them relating to the Western energy crisis of 2000-2001).

[Special Inquiry: IG-0584 | Department of Energy](#)

(Whistleblower allegations that the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico engaged in a deliberate cover-up of security breaches and illegal activities, in particular, with respect to property loss and theft. This inquiry also addressed the treatment of the whistleblowers, who were fired soon after being interviewed by the Office of Inspector General's inquiry team).

I also offer for consideration my time at the Penobscot County Courts the past three years. I have found it humbling and illuminating to step outside the independent evaluator role, and endeavor to lead the delivery of frontline government services for a time myself.

This perspective should serve me well when contemplating and formulating realistic recommendations to city managers, should I have the privilege of being selected. My clerk team and I manage approximately 12,000 criminal and civil case filings per year, in a county of over 150,000 fellow citizens. We believe in public service.

Finally, I have also spent some time reviewing the 2022 Annual Workplan of the New Orleans Office of Inspector General, dated September 28, 2021, the publication of which may have itself been impacted by Hurricane Ida, and ongoing staffing vacancies in the office. Such documents, and the underlying risk assessments which support them, are the lifeblood of effective planning, especially when oversight resources do not necessarily allow for coverage of all areas at all times.

Mindful that I do not have access to the underlying analysis, I would expect that such a document will likely need to be updated to consider the extent to which greater focus is warranted in areas concerning city infrastructure, in the wake of the recent hurricane. If selected, and in time, working collaboratively with the staff, both present and those to be recruited, we could engage in such an effort.

Thank you, again, for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

/S/

Peter Schleck

Enclosure (Resume)

PETER SCHLECK

EXPERIENCE

**MANAGER OF OPERATIONS (AND CLERK OF) PENOBSCOT COUNTY COURTS
MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH
BANGOR, NEWPORT, LINCOLN, AND MILLINOCKET, MAINE
(August 2018 – Present)**

Appointed by the Chief Justice of the Maine Superior Court and the Chief Judge of the Maine District Court, and leads a team of 28 court clerks, managing the state trial court operations and life cycles of approximately 12,000 civil and criminal cases filed annually in Penobscot County, Maine, a jurisdiction with a population of approximately 150,000 citizens. Re-engineered court operations to help preserve access to justice during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including the safe and successful planning and conduct of some of the State's only pandemic-era murder trials to date. Facilitated deployment of video platforms, as well as a new case management and electronic case filing system in the Bangor courts, the first Maine county trial courts to do so. Manages the judicial library resources for the entire Maine Judicial Branch, including with respect to budgeting, contracting, and distribution. Versatile and resilient leader, who has represented the courts in print and broadcast media interviews, in presentations to bar associations and with law enforcement, and addressed the competing concerns of a diverse range of stakeholders under trying circumstances. Interacts frequently with and supports the initiatives of key Judicial Branch leadership.

**DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT AND PERFORMANCE ASSURANCE
PUBLIC COMPANY ACCOUNTING OVERSIGHT BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.
(February 2004 – May 2017)**

Designed and led, for over thirteen years, an internal accountability office analogous to an Office of Inspector General at a Federal agency. Reported directly to the Chairman and Board. Work products were also shared with and relied on by the Chair and Commissioners of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Conducted performance reviews of organizational operations including with respect to finance, information technology, human resources, procurement, and various program operating issues. Supervised professional staff of lawyers and accountants. Reviews required detailed technical and legal analysis of complex issues and communicating the results effectively and succinctly to leaders facing significant competing demands on their time and attention. Scope of work also included sensitive internal inquiries concerning employee conduct. Performance reviews were conducted in conformity with the "Yellow Book" performance auditing standards of the Comptroller General of the United States.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. AND GERMANTOWN, MARYLAND
(October 1998 – February 2004; June 1986 – April 1995)**

During two different periods of service over fifteen years, progressed from high school clerical assistant, through other positions, to Special Advisor to the Inspector General (1998) and Director of Program Review and Special Inquiries (2002). As Special Advisor, assisted the Inspector General in overseeing an agency with an annual budget of approximately \$20 billion, 16,000 Federal employees and 150,000 contractors. In last two positions, also led specially assigned inter-disciplinary teams of special agents, auditors, inspectors, and attorneys, examining high-profile and sensitive matters, several with national security implications, including at the Nation's National Laboratory System (Los Alamos, Sandia, Livermore, and others). Held high-level national security clearance during both periods of service. Briefed Cabinet Secretary and U.S. Senators on results. Participated in the preparation of numerous testimonies and other presentations to be delivered to the U.S. Congress or staff of committees. Coordinated with U.S. Attorney's Offices and the Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Other Positions:

Law Clerk, Superior Court of Maine, Bangor, ME (April 2018 – August 2018)

Compliance Officer for three Maine Hospitals, Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems, Brewer, Waterville, Ellsworth, and Blue Hill, Maine (January 2018 – April 2018)

Associate Counsel to the Inspector General, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Washington D.C. (August 1997 – October 1998)

Associate Attorney, Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger, & Hollander, LLC, Baltimore, Maryland (September 1996 – August 1997; Summer 1995)

Law Clerk to the Honorable William W. Wenner, Court of Special Appeals of Maryland, Frederick and Annapolis, Maryland (August 1995 – August 1996)

EDUCATION

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER, J.D., 1995

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK, B.A., 1991

BAR MEMBERSHIPS

MARYLAND, December 1995

MAINE, May 2018