



U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Office of Inspector General
Bethesda, MD

For Immediate Release
May 27, 2022
Email: CPSC-OIG@cpsc.gov

CPSC OIG Highlights the Need for Additional Oversight in Spring 2022 Semiannual Report

BETHESDA – Today, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) released their semiannual report for the reporting period ending March 31, 2022. The OIG is required to report semiannually on its activities to Congress and the American people. This includes providing detailed information on reports and investigations issued during the reporting period and on the agency's progress implementing Inspector General recommended actions to improve programs and functions.

The CPSC OIG is pleased to report that it has completed the bulk of its annual statutorily required audits and reports as well as begun work on multiple mission related audits. Of note in this reporting period is the increased closure rate of recommendations by the agency. Thanks to the increased attention of the new Chair and Commissioners, the agency closure rate greatly improved this reporting period with 45 recommendations closed.

Unfortunately, the OIG must again report both an instance of interference in OIG work by the agency and a significant management decision with which we disagree. The agency has continued to interfere with the ability of the OIG to conduct investigations by denying us the direct access to the agency's email system that we previously received. Further, the agency is denying the OIG permission to fill a previously agreed-to position. This will potentially impact our ability to perform oversight work of both ARPA funding and other high risk programs at the agency.

The OIG is an independent office within the CPSC that performs audits and investigations of the CPSC, and prevents and detects fraud, waste, and abuse. For more information, visit OIG.CPSC.GOV.

###