



September 18, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: Karen Dunn Kelley
Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce

FROM: Wade Green, Jr.
Counsel to the Inspector General

SUBJECT: Notice of Interview Pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978,
as Amended

As indicated in our August 13, 2020, memorandum to Secretary Ross, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) has opened an inquiry into several matters relevant to the 2020 Census, including, but not limited to, the acceleration of the 2020 Census schedule announced August 3, 2020.¹ The OIG would like to interview you concerning these and other matters relevant to the 2020 Census. In recognition of the current pandemic, the OIG will conduct the interview remotely, via video conferencing software. The interview will be recorded. We will reach out to schedule a time for the interview in the near future.

Please note that, as a Department employee, you are required to cooperate with the OIG. The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, authorizes the Inspector General “to make such investigations and reports relating to the administration of the programs and operations of [the Department] as are, in the judgment of the Inspector General, necessary or desirable[.]” 5 U.S.C. App., § 6(a)(2). Additionally, Department Organization Order 10-13, § 4.01 states that “[t]he officers and employees of the Department shall cooperate fully with the officials and employees of the OIG and shall provide such information, assistance, and support without delay as is needed for the OIG to properly carry out the provisions of the [Inspector General] Act [of 1978].” While you are required to cooperate with the OIG, legal protections prohibit retaliation for cooperation.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (202) 482-5992.

¹ See U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General, August 13, 2020. *Request for Information and Notice of Interview to Secretary Wilbur Ross from the Inspector General re: 2020 Census Schedule*, OIG-20-038-M. Washington, DC: DOC OIG. Available online at <https://www.oig.doc.gov/OIGPublications/OIG-20-038-M.pdf> (accessed September 18, 2020).