



U.S. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
Office of Inspector General

July 13, 2020

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly
Chairman
Subcommittee on Government Operations
Committee on Oversight and Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6143

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of June 15 asking our office to examine the plans and procedures of the U.S. General Services Administration for returning employees to federal offices in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

We share your view that the health and safety of federal employees and contractors is of great importance as the workforce shifts back toward more frequent use of federal workspaces. In view of the vital role played by GSA in managing the federal government's vast workplace portfolio, we are cognizant of the broad, government-wide importance of decisions and implementation of processes by this agency.

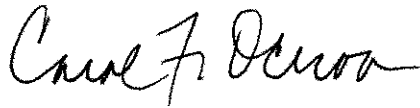
In May, we initiated and are currently engaged in an audit of GSA's procedures to ensure that space is cleaned and disinfected in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines when positive and presumed positive COVID-19 cases have been identified in GSA-managed facilities. Additionally, we will review PBS's communication procedures to notify building occupants of impacted areas.

In addition to that audit, we are monitoring GSA's other activities related to COVID-19, including GSA's support of other agencies responding to COVID-19. This monitoring will allow us to stay apprised of ongoing agency actions and advise management of potential problems. It will also position us to focus oversight efforts on other specific areas of concern that arise.

Should any of this work result in our office issuing to GSA any documents making recommendations for corrective action, we will expeditiously provide a copy to the Committee.

Thank you for your continued support for our work and that of the Inspector General community. If you or your staff have any questions or require further details about this matter, please feel free to contact me or Robert Preiss of my staff at 202-273-7266.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol F. Ochoa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Carol F. Ochoa
Inspector General