



(February 4, 2016)

In order to further improve the lines of communication and to respond to the concerns between the National VA Council and you our members, I have established a National VA Council Briefing. This NVAC Briefing will bring you the latest news and developments within DVA and provide you with the current status of issues this Council is currently addressing. I believe that this NVAC Briefing will greatly enhance the way in which we communicate and the way in which we share new information, keeping you better informed.

Alma L. Lee
National VA Council, President

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**In This Briefing: OPM inspector general resigns, leaving in February**

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Reported by Federal

Patrick McFarland, inspector general of the Office of Personnel Management, announced that he would resign, effective Feb. 19 after 26 years in office.

For the first time in more than 25 years, the Office of Personnel Management will be looking for a new inspector general/

Patrick McFarland announced in a Feb. 1 letter to President Barack Obama that he would resign this month.

[Federal News Radio first reported](#) the resignation, and cited McFarland's letter, where the IG said he was comforted by the leadership of acting OPM director Beth Cobert in dealing with the agency's current challenges.

"Further, she seems to be arduously striving to institute high standards of professionalism as she works to reinvigorate this great agency," McFarland's letter said.

McFarland has been OPM's IG since 1990 and has recently tangled with the agency over the fallout of its massive cyber breach that exposed the personal information of 21.5 million people.

[FEDERAL TIMES](#)

[IG slams OPM on management, funding of IT upgrades](#)

The inspector general had recently criticized how OPM handled its IT upgrade, including how contracts for the security fix were awarded.

McFarland also clashed with OPM CIO Donna Seymour, who has weathered calls for her resignation from House Oversight Committee chair Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah.

[FEDERAL TIMES](#)

[Latest IG report renews calls for resignation of OPM CIO](#)

In his resignation letter, McFarland also recommended that deputy inspector general Norbert Vint succeed him.

McFarland's resignation is effective Feb. 19