

BEFORE YOU TELL IT TO YOUR INSPECTOR GENERAL...

I Got A Beef With The System! What steps should I take now?

- ✓ **Be sure you have a problem, not just a peeve.**
- ✓ **Know what you want the IG to do to fix the problem?**
 - Having a problem is one thing, fixing it is another... Come prepared to discuss how you think your problem can be resolved.
- ✓ **Can your problem be resolved by another form of redress?**
 - Make sure prior to going to the IG that there's not another more appropriate process in place to address your problem.
- ✓ **Give your chain of command a chance to solve the problem.**
 - Many problems must be addressed to the chain of command for resolution anyway.
- ✓ **If IG assistance is needed, contact your local IG first.**
 - IG's at higher commands will normally refer the case to the local IG for action.
- ✓ **Be honest and don't provide misleading information.**
 - IG's will discover the truth quickly in most cases and there are penalties for knowingly providing false information.
- ✓ **Keep in mind that IG's are not policy makers.**
 - If a policy is flawed you can submit a proposed change on DA form 2028.



- ✓ **Keep in mind that IG's can only recommend, not order a resolution.**
 - Only commanders can order; the role of the IG is to advise the commander.
- ✓ **Remember that IG's can only resolve a case on the basis of fact.**
 - Your claim that a supervisor has violated the rules doesn't make it a fact.
 - A claim must be supported with evidence.
- ✓ **Don't expect instant action on your request... Be patient.**
 - Investigations take time, and IG's tend to have heavy workloads.
- ✓ **Be prepared to take "NO" for an answer.**
 - In any case, "Yes or No", the IG will explain why.

To complain without fear of reprisal is the right of any Soldier, Airman, Civilian or Family Member seeking IG help. After all, problem solving is one of the IG's primary missions.

