January 5, 2015

Dear Denali Commission Grant Recipient,

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to the funding recipients of the Denali Commission. OIG seeks to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Commission programs and operations; detect and deter waste, fraud, and abuse; and monitor and track the use of taxpayer dollars through audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations.

On May 28, 2014, the Denali Commission and the Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General entered into an agreement for the Department’s OIG to provide a full range of oversight to the Commission. I have been appointed Acting Inspector General for the Denali Commission and will be devoted full time to that responsibility through at least calendar year 2015. As Acting Inspector General, I am responsible for keeping the commissioners and Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to Commission activities, as well as the need for corrective action.

If you know of fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement in Denali Commission programs and operations, report it to the Department of Commerce OIG Hotline online at http://www.oig.doc.gov/Pages/Hotline.aspx, via email at Hotline@oig.doc.gov, or via telephone at (800) 424-5197. The enclosed poster will help remind you and your colleagues how to contact our Hotline.

Concerns may include alleged or suspected wrongdoing by Commission employees or commissioners, contractors, recipients of financial assistance, and others involved in Commission programs and operations. Also, if you suspect that you have been retaliated against for whistleblowing, please contact the OIG Hotline. You may also contact the U.S. Office of Special Counsel at https://osc.gov. Please note that OIG does not have authority to investigate Equal Employment Opportunity complaints.

Regardless of the method you use to report allegations, OIG will not disclose your identity without your consent, unless the Inspector General determines such disclosure is unavoidable during the course of the investigation.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that the mission of the Denali Commission is achieved in an effective and efficient manner. If you need to reach me, please email me at dsheppard@oig.doc.gov or call (206) 220-7970.

Sincerely,

David Sheppard
Acting Inspector General

Enclosure
The Department of Commerce
Office of Inspector General
is investigating hotline complaints
related to the Denali Commission.

Call: 800.424.5197
Email: hotline@oig.doc.gov
Online: www.oig.doc.gov