B. The Immediate Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Audits (S8C).

Section S8C.20 *The Office of Audits*—(Functions):

- A. The Assistant Inspector General for Audits (S8C) is directly responsible to the Inspector General for carrying out the OA mission and providing general supervision to the major components of OA
- B. The Immediate Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Audits (S8C) provides the Inspector General with staff assistance on the full range of his/her responsibilities.
- 1. Directs and coordinates the activities of the Regional Inspectors General for Audits who carry out audit activities in their assigned geographic areas.
- 2. Develops audit policy, procedures, standards, criteria and instructions for all audit activities performed by, or on behalf of, or conforming with SSA programs, grants, contracts or operations, complying with general accepted Government auditing standards and other legal, regulatory and administrative requirements.
- 3. Develops policy and procedure for an internal quality assurance system to provide reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, procedures, standards and other requirements are followed in all audit activities performed by, or on behalf of, SSA.
- 4. Conducts quality assurance studies to ensure that the policies and procedures are implemented by each OA component and are functioning as intended.
- 5. Evaluates audit work, including performing quality control reviews of audit reports.
- 6. Develops and monitors audit work plans and tracks, monitors and reports on audit resolution.
- 7. Plans, develops and coordinates advanced techniques to carry out OA functions and coordinates and manages OA's information system.
- 8. Conducts, as well as oversees nationwide, the audits of SSA's Retirement, Survivors and Disability Insurance programs; the Supplemental Security Income Program; the Black Lung program; as well as the operation and administration of the entire agency.
- 9. Maintains an internal quality assurance system, including periodic quality control reviews, to provide reasonable assurance that applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures, standards and other requirements are

followed in all SSA audit activities performed by, or on behalf of, SSA.

Subchapter S8E—Office of Evaluations and Inspections

S8E.00 Mission S8E.10 Organization S8E.20 Functions

Section S8E.00 The Office of Evaluations and Inspections—(Mission): The Office of Evaluations and Inspections (OEI) (S8E) conducts inspections of SSA programs, operations and processes to identify vulnerabilities, to prevent and detect misconduct, and to promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness in SSA programs and operations. In support of its mission, the office carries out and maintains an internal quality assurance system. The system includes quality assessment studies and quality control reviews of OEI processes and products to ensure that policies and procedures are effective, are followed and are functioning as intended.

Section S8E.10 The Office of Evaluations and Inspections—
(Organization): The Office of Evaluations and Inspections (S8E) under the leadership of the Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations and Inspections, includes:

A. The Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations and Inspections (S8E).

B. The Immediate Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations and Inspections (S8E).

Section S8E.20 *The Office of Evaluations and Inspections*—(Functions):

A. The Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations and Inspections (S8E) is directly responsible to the Inspector General for carrying out the OEI mission and providing general supervision to the major components of OEI.

B. The Immediate Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Evaluations and Inspections (S8E) provides the Inspector General with staff assistance on the full range of his/ her responsibilities.

1. Directs and coordinates the activities of the Regional Inspectors General for Evaluations and Inspections who carry out OEI's mission and activities in assigned geographic areas.

2. Develops OEI's evaluations and inspections policies, standards and procedures and assesses the quality of inspections to ensure compliance with policies and procedures.

3. Manages OEI's human and financial resources and develops and monitors OEI's management information systems.

4. Manages OEI's work planning process and reviews legislative, regulatory and program proposals for

vulnerabilities to fraud, waste and mismanagement.

5. Conducts inspections of SSA programs and recommends changes to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Provides programmatic expertise and issues information on new programs, procedures, regulations and statutes to OEI regional offices.

6. Evaluates SSA programs, provides written reports and follows up on implementation of corrective action recommendations. Evaluates the actions taken to resolve problems and vulnerabilities identified and provides additional data or corrective action options, where applicable.

7. Conducts data and trend analyses of major SSA initiatives to determine the effects of current policies and practices on program effectiveness and efficiency.

8. Recommends changes in program policies, regulations and law to improve efficiency and effectiveness and to prevent fraud, waste and abuse.

Analyzes current policies to evaluate options for future policy, regulatory and legislative improvements.

This statement amends part S of the Statement of the Organization, Functions and Delegations of Authority which covers the Social Security Administration (SSA). Notice is given of the establishment of SSA's Office of the General Counsel (OGC) (S9) at the first level below the Commissioner and the establishment of subordinate components. The new chapter reads as follows:

Chapter S9—The Office of the General Counsel

S9.00 Mission S9.10 Organization S9.20 Functions

Section S9.00 The Office of the General Counsel—(Mission): The General Counsel, as special advisor to the Commissioner on legal matters, is responsible for providing all legal services and advice to the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and all subordinate organizational components of SSA in connection with the operation and administration of SSA.

Section S9.10 The Office of the General Counsel—(Organization) The Office of the General Counsel under the leadership of the General Counsel includes:

- A. The General Counsel (S9).
- B. The Principal Deputy General Counsel (S9).
- C. The Immediate Office of the General Counsel (S9A) which includes:
- 1. The Deputy General Counsel (Regional Operations) (S9A-1).