

# 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.**
- ✓ **Give your chain of command a chance to solve the problem.**  
(Many problems will be referred to the chain of command for resolution.)
- ✓ **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.**  
(IGs work to uncover all relevant facts and there are penalties for knowingly providing false information.)
- ✓ **Keep in mind that IGs are not policy makers.**  
(If a policy is flawed you can submit proposed change on a DA form 2028 or AF form 847.)
- ✓ **Keep in mind that IGs can only recommend, not order a resolution.**  
(Only Commanders can issue orders; the role of the IG is to advise the Commander.)
- ✓ **Remember IGs can only resolve a case on the basis of fact.**  
(Claims must be supported by evidence.)
- ✓ **Don't expect instant action on your request...be patient.**  
(Investigations take time, IG's focus on getting the facts correct versus expedient resolution and IGs 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.**