

From: **Hammond, Katharine (Kate)**<[kate\\_hammond@nps.gov](mailto:kate_hammond@nps.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Oct 19, 2018 at 4:43 PM  
Subject: Interim Change in GRCA Leadership  
To: NPS GRCA All Employees <[grca\\_all\\_employees@nps.gov](mailto:grca_all_employees@nps.gov)>

Dear Grand Canyon Staff,

I am writing to share with you that, this week, the Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General (OIG) opened an investigation into allegations against the [Grand Canyon National Park](#) Superintendent.

The National Park Service always appreciates the Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General (OIG) for conducting thorough and impartial reviews of allegations like this, and I encourage you all to speak to the OIG investigators on the ground, if you have information that you wish to share with them.

In order to protect the integrity of the OIG's investigation into these allegations, the Grand Canyon superintendent will move temporarily into a position outside of the park while the investigation is conducted. For now, Grand Canyon deputy superintendents will continue to serve as acting superintendent in accordance with their normal rotation.

Once the Office of Inspector General completes its investigation, the National Park Service will determine appropriate next steps, based on the outcome of the OIG's work. We will ensure that all park staff receive regular information associated with this process.

Employees can find additional information about [preventing and addressing workplace harassment](#) on InsideNPS. As a reminder, the [NPS Ombuds team](#) is also available to employees to help resolve workplace challenges.

IMR Regional Spokesperson Vanessa Lacayo will be the lead for all media responses on this issue. Any park or regional staff approached for official NPS comment on the OIG investigation are directed to refer the media to [vanessa\\_lacayo@nps.gov](mailto:vanessa_lacayo@nps.gov) or [303-969-2062](tel:303-969-2062).

Here is suggested language staff can use to refer a reporter:

*"Thank you for asking; our regional office has the lead on this topic. Please contact Vanessa Lacayo for more information at [vanessa\\_lacayo@nps.gov](mailto:vanessa_lacayo@nps.gov) or [303-969-2062](tel:303-969-2062)."*

For questions specific to the OIG investigation or report, please contact:

*Nancy K. DiPaolo  
Director, External Affairs  
Office of the Inspector General  
Department of the Interior*

(v) [202.208.4357](tel:202.208.4357)

(c) [202.805.4701](tel:202.805.4701)

Thank you for everything you do every day on behalf of the American people to protect, preserve and share the extraordinary Grand Canyon with visitors from across the country and around the world. Please continue to watch out for the safety and wellness of yourself and your colleagues. You can find resources available to support employee wellness on this [InsideNPS page](#).

Kate Hammond  
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director  
Intermountain Region  
National Park Service  
[\(303\) 969-2856](tel:303.969.2856)