As the Deputy Inspector General for Investigations, Gary Cantrell leads the Office of Investigations (OI) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG). Since 2012, he has been overseeing the operations and resources of OI, an office with more than 600 employees including investigators, analysts, forensic examiners, and administrative staff. Under Mr. Cantrell’s leadership, OI has had record accomplishments with nearly 6,800 criminal and civil actions, more than 18,000 exclusions, and over $21 billion in investigative receivables.

Through his engagement with the Health Care Fraud Prevention and Enforcement Action Team (HEAT), Mr. Cantrell coordinates with the Department of Justice and State law enforcement agencies to prevent fraud in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. In June 2016, this partnership oversaw the largest national health care fraud takedown in history, resulting in charges against 301 individuals for approximately $900 million in false billing.

Mr. Cantrell also engages extensively with the private sector to prevent and detect fraud in health care. He serves on the Board of Directors for the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association, represents OIG on the Health Care Fraud Prevention Partnership, and frequently speaks on the topic of health care fraud before numerous private associations.

Mr. Cantrell began his career with OI in 1996 as a Special Agent in the Atlanta Regional Office and has since served in a variety of leadership positions in OIG. He holds bachelor’s degrees in Criminal Justice from Georgia State University and in Computer and Information Science from the University of Maryland University College. He is a co-recipient of two Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) awards for Excellence in Information Technology and of numerous HHS OIG awards.

(Updated January 2017)