

What is a Whistleblower?

Someone who reports waste, fraud, abuse, public health and safety threats or illegality.



What is the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act?

The Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act (WPEA) provides millions of federal workers with the rights they need to report government corruption and wrongdoing safely. The Act provides a set of procedures for federal employees who blow the whistle to challenge terminations or other personnel actions. It also establishes a whistleblower ombudsman in each government agency. In addition, it creates specific legal protection for scientific freedom, provides rights to employees who challenge censorship, and makes it an abuse of authority to censor, obstruct, disseminate, or misrepresent the results of federal research.

Contact Us

Before you blow the whistle, you should first know your rights. Learn how you can speak out and protect yourself or blow the whistle anonymously.

Visit the Food Integrity Campaign website at:

foodwhistleblower.org

or call our office at:

(202) 457-0034

The mission of the **Food Integrity Campaign** – a program of the Government Accountability Project (GAP) – is to enhance overall food integrity by protecting the rights of employees in the food industry and government who speak out against unsafe, unhealthy and inhumane practices.

The **Government Accountability Project (GAP)**, the nation's leading whistleblower protection and advocacy organization since 1977, provides confidential expert legal advice and counseling to workers who expose wrongdoing on the job. We offer independent and objective information—and we'll protect your privacy.

Government Accountability Project

1612 K St., NW, Suite #1100

Washington, D.C. 20006

(202) 457-0034

The Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act (WPEA)



**FOOD INTEGRITY
CAMPAIGN**



The Government Accountability Project supports a community of whistleblowers, truth-tellers and advocates to safeguard our food through the Food Integrity Campaign.

GAP GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT
Truth be told.

The Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act

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Who Is Protected?

An employee who reports wrongdoing related to:



...a violation of any law, rule, or regulation

Example: An agent who reports to his supervisor that his fellow agent is violating an international law.



...an abuse of authority

Example: A federal employee makes a complaint about her supervisor harassing and intimidating fellow employees.



...a substantial, specific risk to public health or safety

Example: A federal employee warns that that a device designed to detect threats fails 15% of the time.



...gross mismanagement of funds

Example: An employee discloses to the Inspector General that the agency spent a grossly excessive amount on a new system when the existing system was sufficient.

What Is Considered Whistleblower Retaliation?

- Termination, transfer, demotion
- Change of job duty, reassignment, reprimands
- Negative performance evaluations, or significant changes in an employee's job duties or working conditions.

Victims of Retaliation May Receive:

- Compensatory damages
- Job reinstatement
- Back pay plus interest
- Restoration of all terms and conditions and privileges associated with the job
- Reimbursement by employer for legal costs and expenses

If You Are Retaliated Against for Whistleblowing:

You can get help and advice from GAP by calling:

(202) 457-0034

You can also file a complaint with the **Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**. Contact your regional office directly (www.osha.gov) or make a toll-free call to **1-800-321-OSHA**.