

DoD WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN

THE DOD WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION OMBUDSMAN IS AVAILABLE TO ALL DOD PERSONNEL

The DoD Whistleblower Protection Ombudsman:

- Educates agency employees about prohibitions on retaliation for protected disclosures;
- Educates agency employees who have made or are contemplating making a protected disclosure about the rights and remedies against retaliation for protected disclosures.

The ombudsman **cannot** act as a legal representative, agent, or advocate of a whistleblower.

WHAT IS WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION?

In the Department of Defense, it is laws enacted to protect military servicemembers and employees who "blow the whistle" and then experience a personnel or other adverse action because their employers knew or suspected they blew the whistle. How?

- Employee makes a protected communication or disclosure;
- Employer knows about it or suspects it;
- Employer takes an unfavorable personnel action, withholds a favorable personnel action, or under some statutes, takes other reprisal action or threatens to take or withhold a personnel action;
- Evidence establishes that the reprisal action would not have been taken, withheld, or threatened if the protected communication or disclosure had not been made.

WHO IS PROTECTED?

- Military servicemembers
- Non-appropriated fund civilian employees
- Employees of defense contractors and subcontractors
- Appropriated-fund civilian employees, including members of the intelligence community



Fraud, Waste & Abuse
HOTLINE
Department of Defense
dodig.mil/hotline | 800.424.9098



QUESTIONS?

Get answers to the most commonly asked questions concerning whistleblowing at:
www.dodig.mil/Programs/Whistleblower

Learn more about the Whistleblower Protection Ombudsman:
Whistleblowerprotectionombudsman@dodig.mil

FOLLOW DOD IG ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Twitter:
[@DoD_IG](https://twitter.com/DoD_IG)



Flickr:
DoD Inspector General



LinkedIn:
DoD Inspector General



YouTube:
DoD Inspector General

