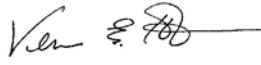




DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

February 12, 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY EMPLOYEES

FROM: Veronica E. Hinton 
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Resources
and Chief Human Capital Officer

SUBJECT: Whistleblower Protection/Prohibited Personnel Practices

The purpose of this memorandum is to ensure that all Department of the Treasury employees are aware of and understand the prohibited personnel practices and whistleblower protections available to federal employees.

Whistleblowing is defined as the disclosure of information that an employee reasonably believes evidences: a violation of any law, rule or regulation; gross mismanagement; gross waste of funds; an abuse of authority; a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety; or censorship related to scientific research or analysis. Employees may make lawful disclosures to anyone, including, for example, management officials, the Inspector General for your bureau, and/or the U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC), which is an independent agency that protects federal employees from prohibited personnel practices and provides an independent, secure channel for disclosing and resolving wrongdoing in federal agencies. Disclosures involving classified information or information whose disclosure is specifically prohibited by law may be made only to the OSC or to the appropriate Inspector General.

Federal employees have the right to be free from prohibited personnel practices, including retaliation for whistleblowing. This Department is committed to making sure that all employees are aware of their rights as well as the safeguards that are in place to protect them.

Please review the following fact sheet, "[Your Rights as a Federal Employee](#)," which provides detailed information on the fourteen prohibited personnel practices and employees' rights to file complaints with OSC. Additionally, I encourage you to review "[Know Your Rights When Reporting Wrongs](#)," which describe different avenues for making whistleblower disclosures as federal employees.

You can locate these fact sheets and other supporting information on www.osc.gov and at <https://osc.gov/Resources/Your%20Rights%20as%20a%20Federal%20Employee%201.18.18.pdf> or <https://osc.gov/Resources/Know%20Your%20Rights%20When%20Reporting%20Wrongs%201.31.18.pdf>