

Joint Message on National Whistleblower Appreciation Day

Issued by the FDIC Chairman and FDIC Inspector General

July 30, 2021

Dear colleagues,

Today, we observe National Whistleblower Appreciation Day, which commemorates the first enactment of whistleblower protections in federal statute in 1778. These important protections have empowered federal employees to provide information that has resulted in countless improvements to federal programs and operations.

We also take this opportunity to remember our obligations as FDIC employees to report fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement at the FDIC. In the event you identify instances of wrongdoing, you should report it to a supervisor or anyone higher up in management, the [Office of Inspector General](#) (OIG), or the [U.S. Office of Special Counsel](#) (OSC), an independent federal agency that provides a confidential channel for federal employees to disclose allegations of wrongdoing.

Federal law ensures that employees who make whistleblower disclosures are protected from retaliation or reprisal. The OSC provide more information about whistleblower protections in "[Your Rights as an Employee of a Government Corporation](#)". We encourage you to review these materials. In addition, the FDIC has a Whistleblower Protection Coordinator located in the OIG who is available to discuss any questions or concerns that you may have about the avenues for making whistleblower disclosures, prohibited personnel practices involving retaliation, and employees' rights to file complaints. You can reach the Coordinator at www.fdicigoig.gov/oig-hotline.

The FDIC is committed to maintaining a culture of transparency and accountability. It is crucial that each employee knows that he or she can make whistleblower disclosures without fear of retaliation.

Thank you,

Chairman Jelena McWilliams

Inspector General Jay N. Lerner

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