July 27, 2023

On July 30, 2023, we celebrate National Whistleblower Appreciation Day, commemorating the first enactment of whistleblower protections in federal statute in 1778. In observing National Whistleblower Appreciation Day, we recognize the contributions of government employees, contractors, and others who disclose allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement involving FDIC programs and operations.

We also take this opportunity to remember our continued obligations to report fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, or mismanagement at the FDIC. In the event that FDIC personnel identify instances of wrongdoing, they should report it to an executive, manager, or supervisor, the FDIC <u>Office of Inspector General</u> (OIG), or the <u>U.S. Office of Special Counsel</u> (OSC), an independent agency that receives and investigates whistleblower claims.

Federal laws encourage employees to disclose wrongdoing and protect employees who engage in whistleblowing activity from reprisal. Several resources are available for those who would like additional information about whistleblower protections, including <u>FDIC Directive 2400.2</u> (Whistleblower Protection Rights) and OSC's publication, "<u>Your Rights as an Employee of a Government Corporation</u>." In addition, a Whistleblower Protection Coordinator is located in the FDIC OIG and is available to discuss any questions or concerns from employees and contractors about the avenues for making disclosures of wrongdoing and the protections available to them for doing so. You can reach the coordinator at <u>www.fdicoig.gov/oig-hotline</u>.

The FDIC is committed to maintaining a culture that reflects integrity and accountability. In this spirit, employees can continue making protected disclosures and reporting allegations without fear of retaliation.

Thank you,

Chairman Martin J. Gruenberg Acting Inspector General Tyler Smith

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