



**FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
SPONSORED RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION**

**NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES  
Federal Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Protection  
from Reprisal for Disclosure of Certain Information  
(Enhanced Whistleblower Protection)**

The federal government has implemented a Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Protection from Reprisal for Disclosure of Certain Information ([41 U.S.C. 4712](#)) (the "Pilot Program") that is effective until January 1, 2017. This regulation requires FSU to inform employees in writing of the rights and remedies provided under this program. Specifically, Paragraph (a) of 41 U.S.C. 4712 states:

(a) Prohibition of Reprisals.

(1) In general -An employee of a contractor, subcontractor, or grantee may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body described in paragraph (2) information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant.

(2) Persons and bodies covered. The persons and bodies described in this paragraph are the persons and bodies as follows:

- (A) A Member of Congress or a representative of a committee of Congress.
- (B) An Inspector General.
- (C) The Government Accountability Office.
- (D) A Federal employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at the relevant agency.
- (E) An authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency.
- (F) A court or grand jury.
- (G) A management official or other employee of the contractor, subcontractor, or grantee who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

**Reporting**

Any employee having knowledge of activities identified above relating to Federal contracts or grants received by Florida State University shall follow the reporting requirements of [FSU's Policy Against Fraudulent, Unethical and Other Dishonest Acts](#). To report a potential issue using the University's hotline, please click the EthicsPoint link [here](#) or call toll-free 1- 855-231-7511 (24 hours a day, 365 days a year). Reporting made through EthicsPoint will be referred back to the FSU Office of Inspector General Services (OIGS) and reviewed for needed action. If reporting through EthicsPoint, the employee should provide his/her name to be afforded protections noted above. Alternatively, reporting may be made directly to the FSU OIGS. Complaints received by the FSU OIGS may be further referred to the appropriate Office of Inspector General of the Federal executive agency having specific responsibilities related to the Pilot Program.

Employees may also submit complaints directly to Federal agency Office of Inspector General (OIG) Hotline Internet sites, such as these:

- Department of Agriculture: <http://www.usda.gov/oig/contractorform.htm>
- Department of Health and Human Services: <https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/report-fraud/index.asp>
- National Institutes of Health: <http://oma.od.nih.gov/public/DPI/Pages/default.aspx>
- National Science Foundation: <http://www.nsf.gov/oig/>

If you have questions related to this program, please contact the Florida State University Office of Inspector General Services (OIGS) at 1-850-644-6031.