



## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

# WHISTLEBLOWERS KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

On January 6, 2009 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was signed into law by President Obama to improve public welfare. If you protect America's interests by reporting fraud, abuse, or mismanagement of ARRA funds at your workplace, and are retaliated against as a result, know that America is here for you.

*American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111-5, Section 1553*

### **A**DMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:

*You have the right to file a complaint with the Office of Inspector General and receive a timely investigation and response.*

### **R**EPRISAL-FREE:

*You have the right to be free from discharge, demotion, or discrimination as a result of disclosing:*

- *Gross mismanagement of a stimulus-funded project.*
- *Gross waste of stimulus funds.*
- *Danger to public health and safety related to a stimulus-funded project.*
- *Violation of the law relating to stimulus funds or a stimulus-funded project.*
- *Abuse of authority related to the implementation of stimulus funds.*

### **R**EMEDIES:

*You have the right to receive remedies if the Office of Inspector General determines you were subjected to an unlawful reprisal. Your employer may be ordered to abate the reprisal, reinstate your employment, and you may receive compensation to reimburse you for your attorney fees and other financial suffering experienced as a result of the reprisal.*

### **A**LTERNATIVES:

*You have the right to take action against your employer in civil district court if the Office of Inspector General does not respond within 210 days or determines that there was not an unlawful reprisal.*

## OIG HOTLINE

[www.oig.dot.gov/recovery/whistleblower\\_protections.jsp](http://www.oig.dot.gov/recovery/whistleblower_protections.jsp)

**Phone:** 1-800-424-9071  
**Email:** [hotline@oig.dot.gov](mailto:hotline@oig.dot.gov)  
**Fax:** 1-540-373-2090

**Mail:** USDOT/OIG  
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Fredericksburg, VA 22404