



U.S. Office of Special Counsel
1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 218
Washington, D.C. 20036-4505

Special Counsel Encouraged by Disciplinary Actions for Retaliation at Port Mortuary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 21, 2012
Contact: Adam Miles, amiles@osc.gov; 202-254-3607

Special Counsel Carolyn Lerner released the following statement on the disciplinary actions announced by the U.S. Air Force against Col. Robert Edmonson and Mr. Trevor Dean. In March, the Office Special Counsel found that Col. Edmonson and Mr. Dean retaliated against whistleblowers at the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operation (AFMAO) Center, Dover Air Base.

“I am encouraged by the disciplinary actions announced today against the individuals who retaliated against whistleblowers at Port Mortuary. These actions send a strong signal that employees at all levels will be held accountable for whistleblower reprisal. I look forward to working with Air Force leadership to strengthen whistleblower training and education efforts so that all employees know they can bring government misconduct to light without fear of retaliation.”

The U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC) is an independent investigative and prosecutorial agency whose primary mission is to safeguard the merit system in federal employment by protecting federal employees and applicants from prohibited personnel practices, especially retaliation for whistleblowing. OSC also operates as a secure channel for whistleblower disclosures and enforces the Hatch Act and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. For more information, go to www.osc.gov.