

# WORKING WITH WHISTLEBLOWERS STARTER PACK FOR COMMITTEES

Congress relies on whistleblowers to carry out its oversight responsibilities pursuant to Article I of the Constitution. This starter pack identifies best practice resources for committees when working with sources from the public and private sectors. It is part of a larger **resource library** developed by the independent, nonpartisan Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds. Learn more about the Office's **confidential services**.



**“ The ability to sift through large amounts of information quickly is so essential in our line of work, and the Whistleblower Ombuds Office make it easy to do so with their tools and resources.”** – Counsel

## DESK GUIDE: Working with Whistleblowers: Do's and Don'ts

This **desk guide** is a primer on best practices and common pitfalls when working with whistleblowers.

## MANUAL: Best Practices for Working with Whistleblowers

This **manual**, available on HouseNet, provides foundational guidance and templates for working with whistleblowers. Pair it with the Office's *Best Practices for Working with Whistleblowers* **training**.

### WORKING WITH WHISTLEBLOWERS: DO'S AND DON'TS

Congress plays a critical role in learning from and protecting whistleblowers in furtherance of its Article I constituent and oversight responsibilities. This work may require heightened sensitivity because of the high stakes involved. Reach out to the Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds for confidential services or for the related Whistleblower Intake Checklist in its library of guidance documents. Here are some “Do's and Don'ts” to help guide you when a whistleblower contacts your office.

### BEST PRACTICES FOR WORKING WITH WHISTLEBLOWERS

Training Manual  
January 2024

## VIDEO: Safely Vetting a Whistleblower Disclosure: Quick Tips

This short **video** explores how to safely vet whistleblower disclosures. Check out the **Working with Whistleblowers Learning Path** for more trainings.



## GUIDANCE: How to Partner with Whistleblowers on Oversight

This **guidance document** addresses advanced questions and strategies to support Congress' partnerships with oversight sources. It is part of a **library of guidance documents**.



## INFOGRAPHIC: Whistleblower Case Management Intake Workflow

This **infographic** is a desk guide for the case management workflow — from intake through referral and follow-up. It can be paired with **Guiding Phrases for Working with Whistleblowers**.



## FACT SHEET: Whistleblowers and Offices of Inspectors General

This **fact sheet** examines how whistleblowers may work with offices of inspectors general, including their role in administering retaliation complaints. It is part of a larger **menu of fact sheets**.



Offices of Inspectors General (OIGs) are independent watchdogs charged with investigating and reporting waste, fraud, and abuse within the entity they oversee. Most OIGs have the authority to investigate a Congressionally chartered agency, or a federal contractor, subcontractor, or its affiliates, subgrantees, or personal services contractors.

Depending on the circumstances, OIGs may investigate

